

Soviets extend nuclear moratorium

MOSCOW (R) — Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on Wednesday announced a 15-year timetable for banning all nuclear weapons and extended a Soviet freeze on nuclear testing by three months. In a statement read on television, Mr. Gorbachev said the Kremlin's ruling politburo had worked out a "step-by-step process of ridding the earth of nuclear weapons to be implemented and completed within the next 15 years." As a token of Soviet good faith, Moscow was extending its nuclear test moratorium for three months from its expiry two weeks ago, Mr. Gorbachev said. The U.S. refused to join the earlier ban. Outlining the Kremlin plan for nuclear disarmament, Mr. Gorbachev made clear the process would depend on the United States abandoning plans for a space-based missile defence. Negotiators from the two countries meet in Geneva on Thursday to reopen negotiations on nuclear and space weapons (See page 8).

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية الراي

PLO: No partial solutions

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) set its face against any partial solution to the Middle East problem and said it would keep up the armed fight "inside our occupied territory." A statement closing a meeting of the PLO leadership stressed that an international conference would be "the basic way to solve the Middle East problem, away from partial solutions and unilateral deals." It also voiced support for Libya, facing a "crazy U.S.-Zionist campaign" and said the PLO would back Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi's drive for Arab solidarity. It also said the PLO was stopping media attacks against Syria. It said the PLO would continue efforts to strengthen relations with Jordan and to further the joint search for peace. It said PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat would lead a delegation to Amman "to follow up all aspects of the joint action."

Volume 11 Number 3071

AMMAN, THURSDAY-FRIDAY JANUARY 16-17, 1986, JUMADA AWWAL 5-6, 1406

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

Rifai leaves for London

AMMAN (U.P.) — Prime Minister Zaid Rifai left Amman on Wednesday on a private visit to Britain, the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, said. Petra said the visit would last several days. His Majesty King Hussein has been on a private visit to Britain since Jan. 6. The King is expected to have talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher in the next few days, Reuters said.

Murphy to come to Mideast soon

WASHINGTON (R) — The State Department said Wednesday its top Middle East expert, Richard Murphy, would meet regional leaders again soon in another bid to get Arab-Israeli peace talks started. Department spokesman Charles Redman, citing security reasons, refused to tell reporters when Mr. Murphy would meet or where and when the talks would take place. "The administration is intensifying its efforts to help the parties reach the negotiating table," Redman said. "In that context, Mr. Murphy will be meeting with regional leaders in the near future."

Israeli inflation set at 185%

TEL AVIV (AP) — Israel's inflation for 1985 reached 185.2 per cent, less than half the previous year's inflation rate, the central bank's statistics announced Wednesday. The lower inflation rate, following 1984's record-breaking 449 per cent inflation, was seen as a victory for Israel's economic stabilization programme, and for Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who made improving the economy a key goal of his administration.

Abu Nidal spokesman denies interview

BEIRUT (AP) — A purported spokesman for Abu Nidal, the renegade Palestinian leader blamed for a series of recent attacks in Europe, denied in a statement published on Wednesday that Abu Nidal was interviewed by an Arab newspaper. The statement, published by the Beirut daily Al Nahar, was signed by Atef Abu Bakr, who claimed he is the Lebanon spokesman for Sabri Al Banna, better known by his nom-de-guerre of Abu Nidal. It said Banna has "not met any reporter or been interviewed by any medium since the two interviews he gave to the German Der Spiegel newspaper and the Kuwaiti Al Qabas" last September in Tripoli, Libya. The Abu Dhabi-based Al Wahda newspaper said last week that one of its correspondents interviewed Abu Nidal in an undisclosed Middle East capital.

Khaddam holds talks in Riyadh

BAHRAIN (R) — Syrian Vice-President Abdul Halim Khaddam visited Riyadh on Wednesday for talks with Saudi Arabia's King Fahd, the Saudi Press Agency (SPA) reported. SPA gave no details of their meeting, which was believed to be connected with the situation in Lebanon. Mr. Khaddam also met Crown Prince Abdullah, who was admitted to hospital on Tuesday with flu, and later left for home, SPA said.

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Leftists counter Gemayel victory over Hobeika with Bikfaya assault

Amal-PSP advance on presidential palace seen as rescue bid for trapped peace accord signatory

Combined agency dispatches

BEIRUT — Fighters of the Shi'ite Amal movement and the Progressive Socialist Party (PSP) fought their way towards President Amin Gemayel's palace on Wednesday after Gemayel loyalists were reported to be poised to crush a challenge to the president from within the rightist camp.

Reuters said at least 45 people were killed and 250 wounded in ferocious tank battles in mainly Christian areas as the pro-Syrian Amal and PSP militias fought their way towards the presidential palace. West Beirut television said the fighters had broken into the president's mountain stronghold of Bikfaya village. Independent confirmation was not immediately available. Despite a 1420 GMT truce agreed by rival rightist militias in east Beirut, machineguns fired steady bursts as fighters of "Lebanese Forces" militia chief Elie Hobeika battled with those of his hardline

turn the tables in what was seen earlier as a victory for Mr. Gemayel in crushing Mr. Hobeika's challenge. In the heaviest fighting between rightist factions in nearly five years, Mr. Gemayel, 43, had almost crushed the challenge to his leadership of Lebanon's 1.5 million Christians only two days after his forces were apparently on the run. His victory over Mr. Hobeika, also threatened to dash hopes for the Syrian-sponsored peace pact aimed at ending Lebanon's decade-old civil war. Mr. Gemayel has doggedly refused to endorse the treaty signed in Damascus Dec. 28 by Mr. Hobeika, PSP leader Walid Junblatt and Nabih Berri, leader of the Amal movement. Mr. Gemayel's right-wing Falange party militia, backed by rebel "Lebanese Forces" units led by Mr. Geagea, launched a two-pronged assault on Mr. Hobeika's forces at dawn. The fighting engulfed mostly Christian east Beirut and the Christian heartland north and northeast of the capital. Apartment

Government reportedly gaining control in Aden

ADEN (Agencies) — Sporadic fighting continued in Aden on Wednesday but the government appeared to be regaining control of South Yemen after a three-day battle against a rival faction of the pro-Soviet leadership.

Most of the rebel elements, who belong to the opportunist right, have been arrested, and many others who tried to assassinate President Ali Nasser Muhammad have surrendered, an official source told Reuters. Western diplomats in Aden also said the government appeared to have gained the upper hand after fighting sparked by a coup attempt by the hardline Marxist faction of ex-President Abdul Fatah Ismail.

State-run Aden Radio, on the air again on Wednesday for the first time since Monday night, quoted an official statement as saying Mr. Mohammad was presiding over round-the-clock meetings of the ruling socialist party's politburo. Earlier unconfirmed reports said he had been wounded in an assassination attempt on Monday. Two Gulf newspapers said former Vice-President and Defence Minister Ali Ahmad Nasser Antar shot and wounded the president after an argument and was killed in an ensuing gunbattle with Mr. Mohammad's aides.

Aden Radio said Mr. Antar and Mr. Ismail were among four leaders of the coup attempt executed on Monday. "These wanted to bring death to the people, and now they have become dead corpses lying in the garbage of history," it said. "Others have been arrested and are awaiting trial."

Sabah stresses need to convene conference on Middle East

KUWAIT (AP) — Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah on Wednesday told British Foreign Secretary Sir Geoffrey Howe that convening an international peace conference on the Middle East was the best forum for resolving the Arab-Israeli conflict. Sheikh Sabah also expressed his concern over the freezing of Libyan assets in American banks. "While discussing the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian question, I stressed to Sir Geoffrey the necessity of holding an international conference under the umbrella of the United Nations with the participation of all the concerned parties, including the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)," Sheikh Sabah said following a round of talks with Mr. Howe. The British foreign secretary arrived earlier on the third and final leg of a Gulf tour that took him also to Oman and Saudi Arabia.

captain quoted by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) spoke of units of the air force and navy attacking the army.

Captain George Patras, who slipped out of Aden port in the wake of a Soviet ship that passed unmolested, docked in Djibouti on Wednesday and said his ship had been caught in crossfire when torpedo boats of the South Yemen navy fired at army targets on shore.

He said the air force then joined in the attacks, firing rockets at positions at the airport. The BBC, which did not name the Greek ship, said Capt. Patras saw many buildings on fire, including the Defence Ministry, which normally had about 2,000 troops in it.

He and his crew also saw civilians fleeing the city, it added. He also spoke of pipelines being hit spilling fuel into the harbour.

South Yemeni Prime Minister Haidar Abubaker Al Attas, who was in India when the fighting broke out, on Wednesday blamed unidentified "outside forces" for the turmoil. A spokesman for Mr. Attas, who cancelled a visit to China because of the fighting, said the premier and his delegation planned to leave for Moscow Wednesday night.

Heseltine fuels cabinet crisis with new charges

LONDON (R) — Former Defence Minister Michael Heseltine made fresh accusations on Wednesday that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government tried to silence him over the Westland helicopter affair. Mr. Heseltine, who resigned from the cabinet last Thursday in a row over the future of the ailing Westland firm, told a packed House of Commons of attempts to block his sponsorship of a European rescue bid. He alleged, in part, that: — A government commitment to hold a cabinet meeting on the issue on Dec. 13 had failed to appear in the official record; — Efforts were made to stop a radio broadcast in which he was to state his case, and — The British ambassador in Rome was instructed by the Foreign Office to ask the Italian government to send no more messages of support for the European offer. Mr. Heseltine repeated an allegation that Trade Minister Leon Brittan had told the chief executive

of British Aerospace (BAE), the lead company in the European consortium, that the firm's participation was against the national interest and that it should withdraw.

Mr. Brittan denied the charge in the House of Commons on Monday along with the accusation that he favoured a rescue bid to Westland from the U.S. firm Sikorsky — a subsidiary of United Technologies — and FIAT of Italy.

Mrs. Thatcher on Wednesday released a copy of previously classified papers on the affair in an attempt to support Mr. Brittan, whose resignation has been demanded by opposition parliamentarians.

Mr. Heseltine's remarks to the House of Commons, in an opposition-sponsored debate on the Westland affair, overshadowed an earlier speech by Mrs. Thatcher that set out the government's role.

Mr. Brittan told reporters on Tuesday he had not considered resigning. (Continued on page 3)

Shultz appeals to U.S. allies to join sanctions on Libya

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, in a direct, televised appeal to Western Europe, urged the allies on Wednesday to join the U.S. sanctions against Libya and not "just sit around" and permit "terrorism" to continue.

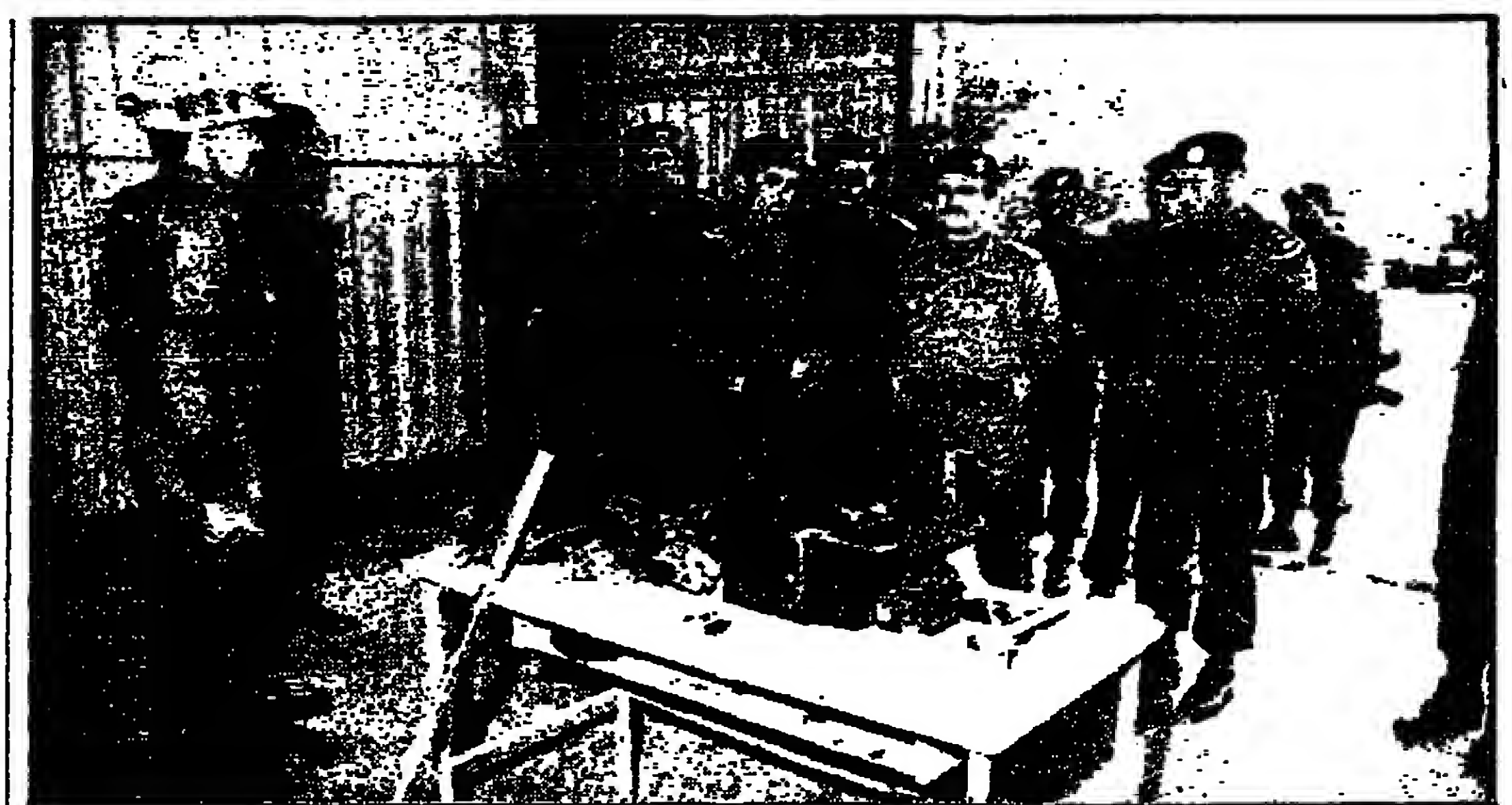
Mr. Shultz also brushed aside assertions that European countries are dependent on Libya for oil. "It doesn't flow," Mr. Shultz said of the oil argument. "The world is awash in oil. You aren't dependent on Libya for oil, you can get it in a lot of places."

Mr. Shultz made the remarks in a satellite-hookup news conference with reporters in France, West Germany, The Netherlands, Belgium and Britain — the first opportunity for newsmen in allied countries to question a high-ranking U.S. official about the sanctions policy.

Deputy Secretary of State John C. Whitehead on Wednesday began a mission to these and other allied countries to discuss the cut-off in U.S.-Libyan economic relations and explore the possibility of the Europeans joining some of the sanctions.

Lesotho dismisses rumours of coup

MASERU, Lesotho (Agencies) — The tiny African kingdom of Lesotho said Wednesday night that hundreds of heavily-armed troops who moved into the capital of Maseru were taking part in military exercises, and denied there had been a coup. Information Minister Desmond Sixshe said he called an urgent cabinet meeting after a press conference here at which he said the government was continuing unchanged. Eyewitnesses told Reuters earlier that the troops, in armoured personnel carriers and jeeps, surrounded the offices of Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan and chased all the workers out. Reporters said they had heard firing in Maseru. Lesotho, completely encircled by South Africa, says Pretoria is imposing a blockade and a sharp deterioration in relations between the two countries. Mr. Sixshe said he did not know the purpose of the exercise but in response to questions he categorically denied there had been a coup. Foreign residents in Maseru said some 150 armed paramilitaries had ringed the Prime Ministry complex and ordered bureaucrats to leave for the remainder of the day. It was not immediately known whether Mr. Jonathan was in the building. "Everything looks absolutely



REGENT VISITS ARMY COLLEGES: His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday visits training schools run by the Armed Forces where he inspected training courses. The Regent visited the Royal Armoured School where he was briefed by its commander on its duties and the

training programmes. Prince Hassan then called at the military school where he watched training in progress. He later visited the Royal Artillery Engineering School where he was briefed by officers and watched training in progress (Petra photo)

Regent lauds conference on U.S.-Israeli relations as valuable experience

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, Wednesday hailed as an extremely valuable experience the conference organised by Yarmouk University's Centre for Hebrew Studies under the title "Studies on Israel and U.S.-Israeli relations."

The Crown Prince, in a comment to the Jordan Times on the outcome of the conference, said the three-day gathering was notable for the frankness of the exchange and the level on which the participants discussed the various issues.

The Regent urged deeper research into Israeli politics and society in all its aspects. He emphasised that recent years have wit-

nessed a proliferation of publications on the Palestinians by mostly Western and Zionist writers. "Our history," the Crown Prince said, "has been shaped by them. We, as scholars, intellectuals, or students, need to reverse that trend. We need to offer the world a different view of our history."

His Royal Highness expressed the hope that Yarmouk University's Hebrew Centre would become the cornerstone of Hebrew studies in the Arab World and the world as a whole.

In an address to the conference on Tuesday, His Royal Highness referred to the two-tier relationship between America and Israel, indicating the importance of identifying which Israel we are talking about: Israel, the small state in the Middle East, or Israel,

the U.S. surrogate and quasi member of NATO.

In the search for a peaceful settlement of the Middle East crisis, the Regent assessed the implications of the special U.S.-Israeli relationship. He warned against the thesis that Israel is only willing to trade peace for peace and not for territory, reminding the audience of two important implications emanating from such a thesis: on the one hand a perpetuation of the status quo which will eventually fulfil Zionist ambitions in the area, while on the other a reliance on revolutionary and inherently destabilising politics. The result, the Crown Prince said, would clearly be further war and conflict in the region, particularly in view of Israel's avowed determination to maintain strategic parity if not superiority.

Afro-Arab conference opens in Damascus

DAMASCUS (Agencies) — Arab and African foreign ministers from 24 states opened a conference here on Wednesday to review the political, economic and financial links between Israel and South Africa.

Adnan Omran, assistant secretary-general of the Arab League, said a political report before the ministers would call for an intensified Afro-Arab boycott of both states.

Jordan is represented at the meeting by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and a high-level delegation. Mr. Masri was received upon arrival here by his Syrian counterpart Farouq Al Shara, a senior Syrian official and Jordan's charge d'affaires in Syria, Mr. Nayef Al Hadid.

Mr. Masri, in an arrival statement, expressed his happiness at visiting the Syrian capital. The visit, he said, offered a chance to hold talks with Mr. Shara's and other Syrian officials.

The Afro-Arab meeting, he said, is designed to bolster ties of cooperation and friendship between Africa and the Arab World. The minister voiced hope that positive step will be taken by the meeting to achieve that goal.

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Information Minister Desmond Sixshe said he called an urgent cabinet meeting after a press conference here at which he said the government was continuing unchanged.

Eyewitnesses told Reuters earlier that the troops, in armoured personnel carriers and jeeps, surrounded the offices of Prime Minister Chief Leabua Jonathan and chased all the workers out. Reporters said they had heard firing in Maseru.

Lesotho, completely encircled by South Africa, says Pretoria is imposing a blockade and a sharp deterioration in relations between the two countries.

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Tunis meeting calls for urgent Arab talks on Al Aqsa

By a Jordan Times Staff Writer with agency dispatches

AMMAN — A conference in Tunis of Arab countries hosting Palestinian refugees has issued a call for an urgent high-level meeting of the Arab League to consider the Israeli occupation authorities' measures against Al Aqsa Mosque and other holy places in occupied Jerusalem.

The conference issued the call after hearing a working paper submitted by Jordan. It also called for fixing an annual "Al Aqsa Day" during which seminars and meetings will be held and studies and research papers will be published on Al Aqsa Mosque and Jerusalem and the dangers that the Israeli occupation poses to holy places in the occupied city. The aim of marking Al Aqsa Day should be to urge all Arabs and Muslims to work together to rescue holy shrines from Israeli occupation, the meeting said, according to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

Participants of the meeting also stressed the need for greater coordination between the Arab League General Secretariat and the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) on all Palestine-related issues and holy places in Jerusalem.

The meeting asked the Arab League General Secretariat to refer the subject of Israeli measures against Jerusalem and its holy places to a meeting of the Council of Arab Information Ministers to be held in June this year.

The Tunis conference, which opened on Monday, is attended by delegates from Jordan, Syria, Lebanon, the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the Arab League.

The meeting's call for urgent action against Israeli actions over

(Continued on page 3)

U.S. asserts right to protect ships in Gulf

Interceptions are 'a potentially dangerous game'

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The United States has the right to have navy warships protect U.S. freighters against "forcible actions" in the Gulf, a State Department spokesman said on Tuesday, but he refused to say whether interceptions by Iran would be resisted.

Spokesman Charles Redman cautioned that the boarding of ships by Iran to look for weapons bound for Iraq was "a potentially dangerous game."

Six armed Iranian sailors stopped the U.S. vessel President Taylor on Sunday, boarded it for one hour and 45 minutes, found no war supplies and permitted the ship to go to Fujairah in the United Arab Emirates to pick up cargo for India.

The administration of President Ronald Reagan on Monday said Iran, which is at war with Iraq, appeared to be acting within its rights. Twelve American passengers on the President Taylor said they feared the Iranian marines would kidnap them.

Two U.S. warships moved into the Gulf of Oman "in case this incident proved to be prolonged and aggravated," Redman said Tuesday. "As it turned out, it did not."

He stressed, however, that U.S. warships have the right to protect U.S. registered ships "from any forcible actions that exceeded the belligerent's right under international law."

Asked what the ships might do, Redman said he did not want to discuss "specific actions" or "specific cases."

The captain of the ship, Robert Reimann, described the interception to reporters as "an act of piracy."

Iran's U.N. ambassador, Said Rajie-Khorassani, said on Sunday Iran stopped the ship as a "precaution" to search for weapons for Iraq.

It was the first interception of an American vessel. Iran has stopped ships from Kuwait, Italy, West Germany, Denmark, Yugoslavia, Poland and Japan, among others.

Earlier this month, a special

warning was issued to American marines that Iran had extended its patrol area into the Sea of Oman, where the President Taylor was detained, spokesman Redman said.

The ship advised the American President Line's office in Bahrain during the Iranian boarding and the message was passed to U.S. navy units in the area, Redman said.

The commander of the Iranian navy said on Tuesday Iran will continue to intercept and search foreign ships suspected of carrying military hardware for Iraq regardless of the flags they sail under.

Iran's official Islamic Republic News Agency (IRNA) quoted Captain Mohammad Hussein Malekzadeh as saying in an interview with the Tehran evening newspaper Kayhan that Iran will continue to "exercise its right" to intercept or seize suspected ships in the Sea of Oman and the Gulf.

Iran announced on Monday that its naval forces on Sunday had intercepted and later released a total of eight foreign ships, including two British and one American. All were allowed to proceed after the Iranians were assured they did not carry military goods for Iraq, it said.

Zia urges Khamenei to seek end to Gulf war

ISLAMABAD (Agencies) — President Mohammad Zia Ul Haq has urged Iranian President Ayatollah Khomeini to bring the war with Iraq to an end.

"President Zia stressed the need for ending the Iran-Iraq war, which is creating serious security problems for the entire region," said a senior diplomat after the two leaders held lengthy talks on Tuesday.

Mr. Khamenei, Mr. Zia and Pakistani Prime Minister Mohammad Khan Junejo spent a considerable time alone when this question was being discussed, sources close to the Pakistani leaders told the A.P.

Diplomats noted that there has been some softening among Iranian government leaders towards the Arabs, especially Saudi Arabia.

Gen. Zia is a member of the peace committee which the Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC) appointed at the summit meeting of 40 Islamic states in 1981, at Taif, Saudi Arabia. The committee has repeatedly pleaded with both Baghdad and Tehran to end the war.

The three leaders, besides detailed talks on the Iran-Iraq war, discussed continued Soviet military presence in Afghanistan, which is flanked by Iran on the west and Pakistan on its eastern borders, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said.

The Indian foreign minister who visited Tehran earlier this week has found no chance for an imminent end to the Iran-Iraq war, it was reported on Tuesday.

Indian External Affairs Minister Bala Ram Bhagat arrived in Bahrain from Kuwait for a two-day visit on the third and final leg of a Gulf tour which has also taken him to Iraq.

An Indian embassy official in Kuwait said that in the wake of his visit to Tehran, Mr. Bhagat saw no imminent end to the Gulf war.

"The gap between Iran and Iraq is too wide at present and there is no way to bridge it," the official quoted him as saying.

India, as chairman of the Non-Aligned Movement, has been at the forefront of efforts to end the war.

Mubarak lashes out at press over Khater's death

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak, in an interview published on Thursday, accused Egypt's opposition press of distorting reports of the death of a convicted policeman who killed seven Israelis.

In his first public comment on last week's death of former police Sgt. Suleiman Khater, President Mubarak said opposition parties and their press had exploited the policeman's case.

"I cannot find a suitable description of how the opposition handled this case, except that it was absurd and misled simple-minded people," Mr. Mubarak told the weekly Al-Mussawir.

Khater was sentenced last month to 25 years imprisonment for the Oct. 5 slaying of the seven Israelis. The 25-year-old policeman was found dead Jan. 7 in his prison hospital room in what the government said was suicide.

Opposition newspapers here and dailies in other Arab countries claimed Khater had been murdered, and his death touched off student demonstrations in three Egyptian cities.

"I tell the truth when I say I felt sorry about the death of this young man," Mr. Mubarak said. "I was sorry for the death of Suleiman Khater because he was a victim of those who wanted to use his case, and I was sorry for the opposition which lost its mind."

Mr. Mubarak said he could understand why some Arab newspapers in some Gulf countries — whose motives we know — fabricate these imagined stories.

"But I fail to understand the motives of an Egyptian party to circulate these lies," Mr. Mubarak

told Al-Mussawir.

Mr. Mubarak said Khater "killed children and women; and the court convicted and sentenced him, and there was no interference or pressure from anywhere."

"Democracy does not mean that the parties instigate the students with aims which are not right and causes which are not true," Mr. Mubarak added.

In the interview, Mr. Mubarak also said Egypt has turned down an Israeli request for a report on the killing of the Israeli.

Saying he had rejected the request, Mr. Mubarak told Al-Mussawir: "I told them (the Israelis) what report you want and to whom shall I submit it... you have forgotten we have an independent judicial system in Egypt. I will never allow anybody to contact the court or ask it for a report."

He dismissed charges that Khater may have been killed by Mossad agents.

"How can the Mossad or anybody else infiltrate into a military jail close to government offices and the president's residence and kill a man in his cell?"

He said: "This is a matter that affects the country's dignity and the safety of the Egyptian citizen."

Mr. Mubarak said he wished the military court had acquitted Khater. "But Khater killed women and children and the court found him guilty and issued its verdict without any pressures or interference from anybody..."

After stating his rejection of Israel's request for a report, Mr. Mubarak said: "We reject any pressures whatever their source may be... I could not continue ruling the country if I bowed to such pressures."

Aden upheaval could upset rapprochement with other Arab states

BAHRAIN (R) — The power struggle in Soviet-influenced South Yemen could upset rapprochement with other states in the Arabian Peninsula, diplomats said Wednesday.

Western and Arab diplomats in the region said that if President Ali Nasser Mohammad were ousted, a more radical faction would take power and could reverse the trend to reduce tension and improve relations with neighbouring countries.

They said President Mohammad, since resuming the presidency in 1980, had restored full relations with Saudi Arabia and established diplomatic links with Oman.

The diplomats saw this as part of efforts to reduce South Yemen's reliance on the Soviet Union and making the Islamic nation of 2.2 million a more integral part of the Arab World.

President Mohammad also moved to ease hostility with neighbouring North Yemen and has been closely identified with the idea of unification of the two Yemeni states at the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula once it turned to Moscow after winning a protracted guerrilla war for independence from Britain in 1967.

Fighting continued in Aden on Wednesday for the third successive day after a reported coup attempt by the strongly pro-Soviet faction of Moscow ideologue Abdul Fatah Ismail.

It was not clear which side had gained the upper hand. But one official source said Mr. Ismail, a

former president who returned last year from self-imposed exile in Moscow, was executed after the coup attempt with three other ringleaders.

But diplomats raised doubts the four had been killed and one rebel radio station said they were alive. Diplomats said if the Ismail faction returned to power, it was likely to be more doctrinaire and isolationist than the Mohammad government.

One Gulf diplomat said: "Oman identifies the rapprochement with South Yemen coming from Mohammad's more moderate stance. It will be watching the situation very closely."

Oman and South Yemen agreed to normalise relations in November 1982, established diplomatic links almost one year later, and last year agreed to exchange ambassadors.

Relations were poor in the 1970s due partly to South Yemen's support of rebels in Oman's southern region of Dhofar.

Although border skirmishes between North and South Yemen have continued since President Mohammad took over, some progress had been made towards improvement in ties.

One Gulf newspaper, the Khaleej Times, said the coup attempt would cause dismay in the Arab World.

The Dubai-published paper said Mr. Mohammad had tried to seek accommodation with his Arab neighbours and liberalise the economy.

Middle East Times returns this week

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Middle East Times, a Cyprus-based weekly newspaper, will soon return to news-stands after a two-month absence according to a press release from the publisher, Thomas Cromwell.

Mr. Cromwell said the paper is to resume publication on Jan. 19 and cited "major reorganisation" within the paper's parent company, the News World Communications Inc., as the reason that forced the weekly publication to close.

The parent company's activities are based in Washington D.C., where it publishes The Washington Times, an ultra-rightist daily, Insight (a new weekly magazine) and You and I (a monthly magazine of analysis and scholarly articles).

Cypriot court jails Palestinian for seven years in arms case

LARNACA (R) — A Cypriot court jailed a Palestinian for seven years on Wednesday after he admitted trying to smuggle arms hidden in Chianti wine bottles on to a Swissair flight to Amman on Dec. 17.

The three-judge court sentenced Sami Anis Nakeh Nasr, 26, a Dubai resident with a Jordanian passport, to seven years on three counts and five years on two counts of possessing arms and explosives.

Nasr pleaded guilty to the charges, saying he belonged to "The Organisation Fatah."

"The illegal arms were carefully packed in four wine bottles, invisible not only to the naked eye, but to the electronic control at the airport," Court President John Papadopoulos said.

The judge commended an airport policeman for detecting the

bottled arms.

He had alerted a colleague to search Nasr after becoming suspicious of an indistinct picture of the wine bottle contents thrown up by an X-ray of his hand luggage, the court was told.

Police found pistols, grenades, silencers and bullets packed in metal foil into two basket-clad bottles whose bases had been cut and resealed and the insides dyed. Police found two similar bottles in a Limassol flat rented by Nasr's sister.

Judge Papadopoulos said he had noted defence counsel's plea for clemency because Nasr was trying to help liberate his people.

"However, the use of Cypriot territory for illegal acts, which involve Cyprus in serious international issues, is a luxury we cannot afford," he said before passing sentence.

Collett's detention harms Palestinian cause, Britain says

UNITED NATIONS (Agencies) — Britain's U.N. ambassador, Sir John Thomson, has said continued detention of British journalist Alec Collett, kidnapped in Lebanon last March, could only harm the Palestinian cause.

Mr. Collett, 64, was on a mission for the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian Refugees (UNRWA) when he was seized on the southern outskirts of Beirut by a hitherto unknown Islamic revolutionary group.

"To detain Mr. Collett further cannot do other than damage to the Palestinian cause for which he himself has shown such understanding," Mr. Thomson said at the annual meeting of the U.N. Correspondents Association, at which a video cassette of Mr. Collett released by his captors last

month was played.

Referring to allegations that the British government had ignored demands from Mr. Collett's captors, he said London had a firm policy of not making substantive concessions to terrorism, for reasons that were well understood and about which there should be no misconceptions.

The demands received in the Collett case had been extremely general, for the release of Arab and Muslim prisoners from British jails, the ambassador said.

"I can only hope that those who have held Mr. Collett for so long will now appreciate that his continuing detention can serve no useful purpose," he said.

In Paris, French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas said on Tuesday that discussions to free four French hostages, being held in

Lebanon have intensified, leading to a "period of hope."

Alluding for the first time publicly to two of the demands of the captors, Mr. Dumas said the demands concerned "financial concessions" and "demands involving people."

Earlier reports of the captors' demands had said they concerned the settlement of \$1 billion loan to France made in 1975 by the late Shah of Iran and freedom for five people in French jails for the attempted assassination in 1980 of former Iranian Prime Minister Shapour Bakhtiar, now leader of an exile faction.

Another reported demand is an end to French arms sales to Iraq, which is at war with Iran, but Mr. Dumas made no mention of it.

Mr. Dumas, speaking on radio RTL, said France has not had direct

contact with the captors, who claim to be members of "Islamic Jihad," close to Iran. But he said "initiatives" towards Lebanon, Syria and Iran have been taken, leading to a "period of hope because discussions have intensified."

He said the hostages, two diplomats, a journalist and researcher, were being held in Lebanon's Bekaa Valley, which is under Syrian control, "but the captors move the hostages around."

Last Friday, the Islamic Jihad, in a message addressed to the French nation and President Francois Mitterrand, accused the government of "procrastination" in the negotiations. The message said the health of one of the hostages had become "life threatening."

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel. 73111-19

MAIN CHANNEL

16:00	Koran
16:20	Cartoons
16:45	Children Programmes
17:50	Webster
18:15	Paul Daniel Show
19:00	Contests programme
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Week's Event (news programme)
20:40	Tomorrow's programmes
20:45	Arabic Play
23:00	News in Arabic
23:10	Play continued

FOREIGN CHANNEL

07:45	French Programme: Michel Sardou Vivant
19:00	News in French
19:15	Bergeval et fils
19:30	News in Hebrew
20:00	News in Arabic
20:30	Emergency Room
21:10	Return to Eden
22:00	News in English
22:30	Feature Film: The Disappearance of Azaria

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM & partly on 9500 KHz. SW
Tel. 74111-19

07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsweek
08:00	Evening News
08:30	News Summary
09:00	Morning Show
09:30	Pop Session
10:00	News Summary
10:30	News Summary
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FOR FRIDAY

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MAIN CHANNEL

10:00	Koran
10:30	Religious Programmes
11:00	Cartoons
11:30	Friday Prayers and Religious programme
13:00	Documentary
13:30	Sports
15:25	Robot
16:10	Viewers' Choice
17:30	Arabic Film
20:00	News in Arabic
20:35	Arabic Series
21:30	Tomorrow's Cinema '86
22:40	News in Arabic

News in Arabic

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

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WHAT'S GOING ON

TODAY'S EVENTS

EXHIBITIONS

* An exhibition of old times newspapers, "La Presse Napoléonienne" at the French Cultural Centre (until Jan. 16).

* Permanent book exhibition and plastic arts gallery at Dar Al-Jadeed Publishing House, Jabel Al Hussein, opposite to the British Bank of the Middle East.

FILM

* War Games at 7:00 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

SPECIAL PROGRAMME

* A telegraph conference via satellite telephone link with professor Ronald Walters from Howard University to mark the first anniversary of Martin Luther King at 3:30 p.m. Thursday at the American Centre.

CULTURAL CENTRES

Royal Cultural Centre	Tel. 6610267
American Centre	Tel. 64371
American Centre Library	Tel. 64370
British Council	Tel. 636147
French Cultural Centre	Tel. 637009
Goethe Institute	Tel. 641993
Soviet Cultural Centre	Tel. 642003
Spanish Cultural Centre	Tel. 634045
Turkish Cultural Centre	Tel. 639777
Hays Arts Centre	Tel. 665195
Hussein Youth City	Tel. 667181
Y.W.C.A.	Tel. 641793
Amman Municipal Library	Tel. 636111
University of Jordan Library	Tel. 643555

MUSEUMS

Folklore Museum: Jewellery and costumes from 100 years old. Also mosaics from Madaba and Jerash (4th to 18th centuries). The Roman Theatre, Amman. Opening hours: 9:00 a.m. - 5 p.m.

PRAYER TIMES

05:14	Fajr
10:37	Sunrise
11:46	Dhuhr
14:35	Asr
16:57	Maghrib
18:19	Isha

BBC WORLD SERVICE

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06:00 Newsweek

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Sharif Zaid patronises tree-planting event

AMMAN (Petra) — Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker Wednesday patronised the Armed Forces tree-planting celebrations held at the new site of the Command and Staff College and the Royal Defence College as part of the country's celebrations of the Arbor Day. The participating officers and non-commissioned officers planted many trees on the site. The celebration was attended by the army chief of staff and his assistants, the armed forces inspector general and a number of armed forces officers.

Hamzeh receives WHO official

AMMAN (Petra) — Dr. Abdul Majid Abdul Hadi, regional representative of the World Health Organisation (WHO), Wednesday met with Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh for discussions on cooperation between Jordan and WHO in health-related affairs. Dr. Abdul Hadi, who began his 10-day visit to Jordan on Tuesday, discussed WHO seminars and training courses offered to doctors from Arab countries. Dr. Abdul Hadi, who is in charge of coordinating WHO programmes in Jordan and Syria, is expected to meet with other Jordanian officials.

Public works official inspects roads

AMMAN (Petra) — Ministry of Public Works Under-Secretary Khalaf Al-Hawari Tuesday and Wednesday inspected the progress of work at number of road projects in the country. He met with officials in charge of the execution and supervision of these projects and stressed the necessity for finishing the roads according to schedule. The tour included road projects at Ma'in, Ma'in Al-Hamam, the Qastal-Queen Alia International Airport, Smeleh-Salt, the Zarqa circular, the Jordan Petroleum Refinery Company and Al Azraq. The total cost of these projects amounted to JD 15 million.

University teachers visit Mu'ta

KARAK (Petra) — A group of teachers from the University of Karak Wednesday called at Mu'ta University where they heard a briefing on the university's development and programmes. Mu'ta University President Ali Mahafzah explained the military training programmes and academic courses which, he said, prepare students for the Armed Forces and the Public Security Department. The university has 1,500 students but this will eventually rise to 5,000, Dr. Mahafzah said. The visitors later toured the university campus.

Joint assembly to convene soon

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian-Iraqi Industries Company general assembly is due to open a meeting in Amman towards the end of January to discuss a number of the company's bylaws and statutes. The meeting, expected to last several days, will be co-chaired by Minister of Industry and Trade Rajal Muasher and his Iraqi counterpart Tarek Al Abdullah. The meeting will discuss a programme of projects to be carried out in the coming two years.

Centre organises telepress conference

AMMAN (J.T.E.) — On Thursday, Jan. 16 at 3:30 p.m., the American Centre will hold a telepress conference via satellite telephone link with Professor Ronald Walters in honour of the first observance of Martin Luther King Day. Dr. Walters is a professor of Political Science at Howard University and was chief strategist of the Jesse Jackson presidential campaign during the 1984 elections. Jordanian participants in the telepress conference include university professors and journalists who will be discussing human and civil rights issues and the progress of black Americans with Professor Walters.

IDB grants loans worth JD 1,273,900

AMMAN (Petra) — The Industrial Development Bank granted JD 1,273,900 in loans to small companies and individuals in Jordan during 1985. A bank spokesman said the loans financed the establishment of bakeries, restaurants, workshops for carpentry, aluminium, and ready-wear clothes, shoe-making, ceramics and jewellery, among other light industries.

Flower festival scheduled for Jan. 25

AMMAN (Petra) — A festival of flower arrangement will be organised at the Housing Bank Centre in Amman on Jan. 25. The festival will be organised by a number of local organisations and will include a competition for school children in drawing and flower arrangement. Winners will receive token gifts. The festival will coincide with the country's Arbor Day celebrations.

GUVS reviews its activities during 1985

AMMAN (Petra) — The General Union of Voluntary Societies (GUVS) in Jordan last year distributed JD 662,000 to charitable societies in the Kingdom of which there are now 550 with 55,000 members, GUVS Chairman Abdullah Al Khatib announced Wednesday.

Speaking at a press conference to outline GUVS activities over the past year, Dr. Khatib said that charitable societies are working hand-in-hand with the Ministry of Labour and Social Development to improve social standards in Jordan.

Referring to charitable societies in the West Bank, he said that they have a national role to play because the whole territory is now under Israeli rule. These societies, which receive GUVS aid on a regular basis, manage social and voluntary work, operate schools, hospitals, orphanages and even universities and look after families of martyrs in addition to taking care of war victims and offering help to needy families, Dr. Khatib pointed out.

He said the role of charitable societies in both banks complement that of the Jordanian government, helping to create a socially secure community and trying to bridge the gap between the rich and poor.

He pointed out that relations between charitable societies in both banks have never been severed and that the GUVS executive board holds periodic meetings for representatives of these societies from both banks to plan programmes for the future.

Also speaking at the press conference was Mr. Fakhri Bilbeisi, GUVS vice chairman, who outlined the achievements and the aspirations of charitable and voluntary societies in Jordan. GUVS supported projects carried out by 16 charitable societies in Jordan by contributing JD 12,000 and offering financial assistance according to the national charitable lottery amounting to JD 46,000 in the past year, Mr. Bilbeisi said.



U.S. ADMIRAL VISITS MILITARY SITES: Visiting chairman of U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff Admiral William Crowe (centre left) and his accompanying delegation Wednesday visit the Fifth Royal Armoured Division accompanied by Armed Forces Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Fathi Abu Thaleb (centre right). Lt.-Gen. Abu Thaleb also accompanied Admiral Crowe on visits to the King Hussein Medical Centre, Martyr Muwaffaq and Al Sald air base (Petra photo)

Lawzi returns from Arab food security talks

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting of the Arab Organisation for Agricultural Development (AOAD), which concluded in Algiers recently, has taken steps to encourage Arab countries' efforts towards achieving food security and has allocated funds for financing studies to achieve that goal. Under Secretary of the Ministry of Agriculture Saleh Al Lawzi said Wednesday.

Speaking upon his return to Amman from the meeting, Dr. Lawzi said that the meeting underlined the need for the Arab World to become self-sufficient in food and for mobilising Arab efforts and resources to fulfil this end.

The meeting entrusted the AOAD secretariat with establishing contacts with organisations and Arab and international funds to finance schemes designed to stem desertification, he continued. It also endorsed agreements concluded with the European Community designed to employ advanced technology in developing Arab agriculture, Dr. Lawzi pointed out.

The meeting, he said, also recommended that Arab countries facilitate the entry of Arab goods into their markets and help one another market their products abroad. It also urged Arab countries to exert all possible efforts to persuade industrialised nations to remove protectionist restrictions which limit the marketing of Arab products in their countries, Dr. Lawzi added.

The meeting urged Arab countries to give priority to agricultural development projects and to increase their food production by increasing the volume of investment in the agricultural sector. Participants also called on Arab states to refrain from undertaking projects that tend to compete with similar ones in other Arab countries, Dr. Lawzi continued.

He said that the meeting called on Arab countries to undertake joint agricultural ventures, to intensify their efforts in food production and to facilitate the flow of Arab capital for investment in such projects. Specialised Arab organisations and technical institutions have been called on to contribute to this endeavour and to help carry out Arab agricultural projects, Dr. Lawzi said.

The meeting, he said, approved the allocation of \$1.5 million for training staff from the Arab World and for holding seminars and conferences related to agricultural development in the region. Dr. Lawzi was accompanied to the meeting by Dr. Rasem Sweiti from the Ministry of Planning.

On a similar role, Dr. Edmond Ghareeb, an Arab expert on the Middle East and media affairs, said in an interview with the Jordan Times on Wednesday that democracy and freedom in the Arab World are a basic need and a key factor which could change the negative stereotype of Arabs in the U.S. media. "The Arab image in the U.S. media has to some extent been a reflection of Arab disunity and disorganisation and of government's oppression of their nations and their denial of basic human rights," said Dr. Ghareeb, who is also press advisor to the United Arab Emirates embassy in Washington.

Dr. Ghareeb, who participated in a three-day conference on Israel and U.S.-Israeli relations, which ended here on Tuesday, pointed out that the U.S. media's treatment of Arab leaders is to a large extent governed and determined by their relations with the U.S.

Dr. Ghareeb, who submitted a paper on "The Arabs in the U.S. media" to the conference said that the image of Arabs in the U.S. press is largely due to residual effects of past events — political, economic and moral crises between east and west — and that the new issue is not one of policy but of politics. Another factor which

Shultz appeals to U.S. allies

(Continued from page 1)

need for some action against Libya.

The secretary was asked five times during the half-hour news conference if the United States might use force against Libya and if an increase of American military strength in the Mediterranean might be a prelude to such action.

He declined to discuss the military options except to say "as conditions become a little more tense we want to be sure we have adequate force on hand."

U.S. Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has dismissed warnings by Colonel Qadhafi that a U.S. attack on his country could trigger a third world war.

Mr. Weinberger, who called Col. Qadhafi a puppet of the Soviet Union, said in a television interview on Tuesday he doubted the Libyan leader could carry out his threat to shut down Mediterranean shipping and draw other countries into a conflict against the United States.

"I think that all of these threats and things that he would do and that he would start world war III and all of that can't really be taken as gospel," Mr. Weinberger said.

Col. Qadhafi had made the warning in an interview on the same ABC programme a day earlier.

Col. Qadhafi has called on the Libyan people to wage economic warfare on the United States in response to President Reagan's trade and commercial ban against his country.

"The Libyan people are facing an economic battle which they should fight with the same weapons," he told a public gathering in Tripoli Tuesday night.

Referring to the freezing of Libyan assets in the United States, he said: "Because America took economic steps against us we must take material steps, economic

steps to fight the American enemy with his own weapons."

Col. Qadhafi urged all Arab countries to join in the economic sanctions against the United States and said Libya should be "at the forefront of this battle."

Arab ambassadors in Spain issued a declaration Wednesday supporting Libya and criticising "threats and military mobilisation" made by unnamed countries against that country.

The statement by the Council of Arab Ambassadors said accusations directed against Libya by the United States and Israel "lack proof."

The statement said Arab nations join the international denunciation of terrorism, adding the most "appropriate method to eradicate violence and terrorism and enhance peace and stability is to attack the roots of the evil."

The statement said the Arab states recognised the United Nations as "the supreme arbiter in all international crises."

Reagan administration officials said Tuesday two navy F-18 carrier jets were launched to intercept two Libyan MiG-25 fighters over the Mediterranean on Monday when the Libyan planes flew near a U.S. military reconnaissance aircraft.

But the Libyan jets returned to their base after a look at the American reconnaissance plane and there was no hostile action, said the officials, who spoke on grounds they not be identified.

Defence Department spokesman Robert Sims said that Soviet ships in the vicinity of Libya and the alleged supplying of Libya with Soviet SA-5 anti-aircraft missiles were a "significant and dangerous escalation" of tensions in the region.

Sims told reporters that Soviet naval vessels and reconnaissance aircraft were helping Libya.

Abourezk explains activities of ADC

By Rama Sabbagh
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Participants who attended a symposium on Israel and U.S.-Israeli relations Wednesday visited Irbid where they heard a speech delivered by former U.S. senator James Abourezk. Mr. Abourezk said the Arab American Anti-Discrimination Committee (ADC) is trying to explain Arab causes to the American public to counter the influence of the Zionist lobby in the United States.

Addressing a banquet held in his honour at Yarmouk University, Mr. Abourezk said that the ADC is striving to redirect the course of Israeli-oriented U.S. policies. The Zionist lobby has a great influence on the U.S. Congress which plays a leading role in U.S. policy-making, particularly with regard to the Arab Nation in general and the Palestine problem in particular, with harmful consequences to Arab and Palestinian interests, Mr. Abourezk said.

He explained that the ADC plays a leading role in explaining Arab causes to try and win support for these causes (See story page 4).

Expert discusses Arab image in the U.S. media

On a similar role, Dr. Edmond Ghareeb, an Arab expert on the Middle East and media affairs, said in an interview with the Jordan Times on Wednesday that democracy and freedom in the Arab World are a basic need and a key factor which could change the negative stereotype of Arabs in the U.S. media. "The Arab image in the U.S. media has to some extent been a reflection of Arab disunity and disorganisation and of government's oppression of their nations and their denial of basic human rights," said Dr. Ghareeb, who is also press advisor to the United Arab Emirates embassy in Washington.

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Dr. Ghareeb, who submitted a paper on "The Arabs in the U.S. media" to the conference said that the image of Arabs in the U.S. press is largely due to residual effects of past events — political, economic and moral crises between east and west — and that the new issue is not one of policy but of politics. Another factor which

has distorted the image of Arabs in the U.S. press is that Arab countries are undergoing rapid socio-economic and political development and only the negative aspects of this rapid growth have been viewed by the West. "The West's inability to comprehend the forces of change in the Arab World, and hence the misinterpretation of intentions by various western governments is another factor which contributed to the negative stereotyping of Arabs in the western media," he continued.

The Georgetown-educated thinker and analyst has a doctorate degree in Middle East history and has done extensive research on U.S. press coverage of the Middle East, the Arab Israeli conflict, the Lebanon crisis and Gulf issues.

Dr. Ghareeb claims that the stereotyping of Arabs in the western media is "deep-rooted and not because of Zionist control over the western mass media." There are structural and historical factors, according to Dr. Ghareeb, which have determined the image of Arabs in western minds. The historical factors are related to culture and economy, to the conflicts between Islam and the West, the Crusades, struggle of the monopoly over East and West trade routes and the Arab confrontation with the West, he elaborated.

In order to strike a balance in the western media in terms of Arab coverage, Dr. Ghareeb believes that Arab leaders should make their views heard and that inter-Arab contacts between Arabs living in the U.S. should be strengthened. "Arabs were more effective in presenting their views to the Americans through Arab businessmen and students interacting with the U.S. public," Dr. Ghareeb said, adding that Arab countries should invite more American journalists and decision makers to visit the Middle East.

"The American media, which is one of the world's most influential and free systems also has some structural problems which to some extent determines the U.S. coverage of the Arabs and of all Middle East developments, he continued. Citing examples of these structural factors, Dr. Ghareeb said: "The American angle is present in any Arab story. Their trend is to cover crises and ignoring mounting tension and there is a think alike tendency which is in accordance with the fashion or the opinion editorials which depend on their respective sources and news leaks."

pressure to back the accord, charging it made too many concessions to Muslims demanding an equal share of power with the traditionally dominant Christians.

Within 12 hours of his return on Tuesday he had managed to convince Mr. Geagea, 37, who last March led a rebellion against him, to join forces with him for a counter-attack.

Falange Party President Elie Karamah branded Mr. Hobeika "a renegade who seeks to suppress freedom of expression and destroy the democratic structure of the Christian society," Mr. Karamah called the fighting "a destiny-making battle."

There was no immediate comment from Syria about Mr. Gemayel's victory, which leaves the peace pact in doubt.

But Beirut Radio quoted Syrian Vice President Abdul Halim Khaddam, the pact's architect, as saying on Tuesday: "There will be no more Syrian-Lebanese summit meetings."

Syria, the main power broker in Lebanon, has 25,000 troops in north and east Lebanon under a 1976 Arab League peace-keeping mandate.

Jordan to attend Arab transport ministers meeting in Tunis

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan will take part in an Arab ministers of transport meeting due to open at the Arab League headquarters in Tunis on Jan. 21. Among the subjects to be discussed at the meeting will be manufacturing some of the equipment and spare parts used in the transport sector which are being imported from foreign countries, according to a spokesman for the Arab League.

The spokesman said that such project will not only create jobs for Arab workers but noted that it is bound to save large amounts of money and hard currency much needed for development purposes.

Another important subject to be taken up at the meeting, he continued, is launching a pan-Arab transport strategy which had been discussed by the council of Arab transport ministers at an earlier meeting. This strategy is designed to help the process of Arab economic integration, the spokesman added.

The Arab transport ministers will also discuss the prospect of establishing an Arab corporation to register and classify ships and cargo vessels. They are also expected to discuss the availability of energy and ways of rationalising its use.

Tunis meeting calls for talks

(Continued from page 1)

Al Aqsa Mosque and Haram Al Sharif in Jerusalem comes in the wake of two visits to the area by a team of Israeli parliamentarians.

The Israeli team, which was prevented by angry Palestinians from entering the area last week, had to cut short a second visit on Tuesday after one of the teams deliberately provoked Al Aqsa authorities and Muslims by reciting Jewish prayers at the Islamic religious shrine, reports said.

The delegation said it was visiting the area to investigate reports of "illegal construction" on the site.

Jerusalem Mufti Sa'adeddin Al Alami told Reuters on Wednesday he withdrew his invitation to the delegation when one of its members, Rabbi Eliezer Waldman, began reciting Jewish pra-

yers on entering the area. "Even Jewish law prohibits Jews from praying here," he said. "We will not permit any further visits because all these people want to do is threaten 14 centuries of Muslim presence."

The Jerusalem Post newspaper criticised the parliamentarians, saying they "mistook liberty for licence to cause mischief." It described them as "warmongering, headline-grabbing legislative firebrands."

Arab East Jerusalem was calm on Wednesday following Tuesday's clash, in which police fired tear gas at demonstrators shouting "we are the sword of Mohammed," and demanded that the Israeli delegation leave the area.

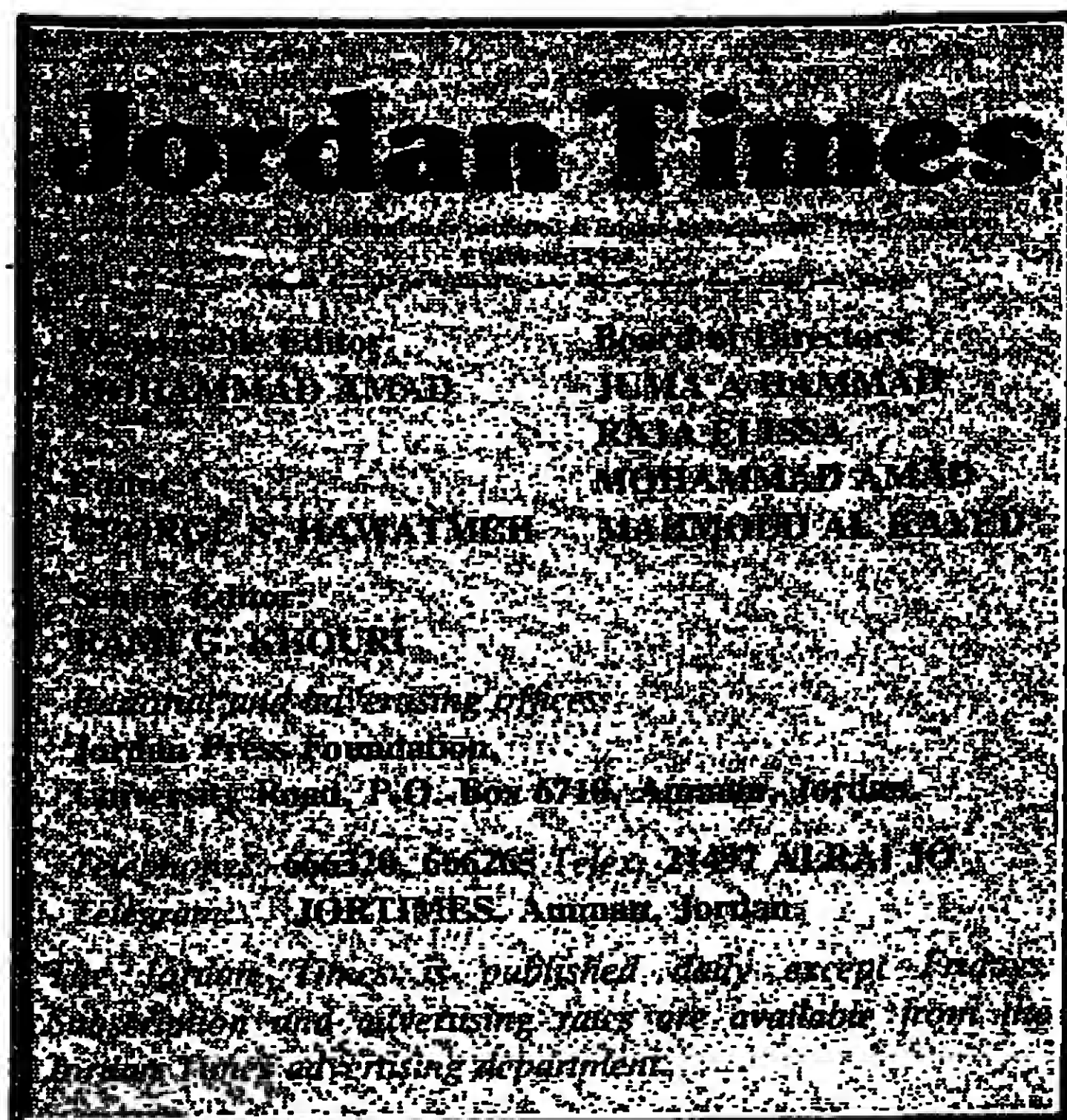
Just outside one of the gates, police used tear gas to disperse Palestinian protesters and several Palestinians were arrested.

Fly the Golden Falcon

WEEKLY
5 FLIGHTS TO THE GULF

from AMMAN

WITH CONVENIENT CONNECTIONS TO
KARACHI, BOMBAY, DELHI,
COLOMBO, DHAKA
AND THE FAR EAST



No to logic of despair

IS ISRAEL incapable of taking the "bold steps for peace" urged upon it? There are those who argue that it is; that Israel will only trade peace for peace and not for territory. We wonder whether they fully appreciate how bitter those conclusions are to those most intimately involved — namely the Palestinians.

In an address to the seminar on "Israel and U.S.-Israeli relations" that was organized by Yarmouk University's Centre for Hebrew Studies, His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan warned of the dire consequences of accepting such a thesis. His warning came as a timely reminder to those who, because they cannot see the way ahead, renounce negotiations as futile. We must not accept this logic which offers only continued bloodshed and despair.

An analysis of the special U.S.-Israeli relationship points up the fact so often mentioned that time is running out for the Palestinians. An evaluation of U.S.-Israeli relations is becoming increasingly difficult. The difficulty lies not so much in the obvious inequality of the relationship, which confers far greater benefits on Israel than on the U.S., but rather in its ever-deepening complexity. The relationship of superpower to client state has ceased to function as we normally understand it, and as a result of strategic, technical and trade cooperation agreements, the U.S. administration, through its own policies, risks losing the leverage with Israel it once had. Indeed, even U.S. aid is not as effective a tool as it used to be as regards Israeli politics. Moreover, the former U.S. belief that greater economic and military aid to Israel would increase her confidence, thus encouraging her to seek peace in the region, has been wholly discredited. Nonetheless, it is our hope that there are those in Israel who are committed to lasting peace.

It is imperative that all parties to the conflict re-examine the likely consequences of abandoning the peace process. If we reject negotiations the choices will be stark: the perpetuation of the status quo, or continued war and bloodshed in the region. Either would be a tragedy for the Arab World and a victory for those who would undermine Jordan's positive contribution to regional stability and domestic political harmony.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al Ra'i: The way to peace

ISRAEL is striving to present its current negotiations with Egypt over Tabaa as an opportunity for restoring normal ties with Egypt, and a door through which other Arab countries can enter these negotiations and achieve "peace" with Israel. Israeli news media have been calling these negotiations as a constructive step towards rebuilding good relations with Cairo, but at the same time, they have been relaying Tel Aviv's conditions for such relations to be resumed. Israel has been demanding from Egypt to step all press attacks on Israel, to pay compensation to the families of soldiers shot by Suleiman Khater, the Egyptian soldier who tried to stop the Israelis from entering his country, and is demanding that Egypt hand over documents containing investigations into the Suleiman Khater affair. In short, Israel is trying to impose its will on Egypt through blackmail over Tabaa, and is indeed trying to pull other Arab states to the current negotiations in a clear bid to revive the dead Camp David agreement. The current negotiations concern Israel and Egypt alone, and Israel should hand over Tabaa because it belongs to Egypt, and no other Arab country should join these talks because all Arabs refuse Camp David accords, since they do not meet the requirements of real peace.

Al Dustour: Israel's violations

WITH its recurrent violations of the sanctity of the holy shrines in Jerusalem, Israel is trying to take another step towards seizing Islamic holy places and imposing its will on the Arab and Islamic people in the occupied Arab territories. These violations have been coupled with calls by Ariel Sharon and other extremist Zionist leaders in Israel for capturing this holy shrine by force. But unfortunately for Israel, the Arab residents of Jerusalem have rung the bell of danger for all the other Arab and Muslim people in the world to hear and to heed their call for speedy action to save the holy places from further sacrilege. The residents have thus called the Arab and Muslim people to thwart Zionist attempts against Al Aqsa Mosque as they did to Al Ibrahim Mosque in Hebron, and so lose their control over their religious shrines. The heroic stands of the Arab residents in Jerusalem are a source of pride for Arabs and Muslims who should now mobilise their efforts and resources and strengthen the steadfastness of their kinsmen under Israeli rule, pending real endeavours for regaining Arab rights in their homeland.

Sawt Al Shaab: Denunciations not enough

WHAT is happening in Jerusalem is of grave danger to the Arabs and the Muslims of the whole world, and the Israeli violations of the holy places in Jerusalem constitute a threat to the rights of these people in their shrines. The Israelis, who have tried first to burn Al Aqsa Mosque and then to demolish it through excavations underneath it, are now changing their tactics and resorting to a direct storming of the holy shrine in an attempt to wrest it from the hands of its legitimate owners. These Israeli challenges should not be confronted by mere condemnations and denunciations because these cannot regain the rights and the usurped lands. If the Israelis are allowed to pursue their current policies and aggression on our lands and our holy places, we are bound at the end to lose everything. The Arab people of the occupied Arab territories are helpless, but despite that, they have been able to abort Zionist designs and attempts to seize the holy places. The capitals of the Arab and Islamic world should wake up and realise the grave danger threatening their faith and their holy places.

View From America

Reflections on 1985 and predictions for 1986

By Franz Schurmann

SAN FRANCISCO — It is common in American media to do a summary of the past year when the new year arrives. And sometimes commentators even risk a few predictions. Let me try the first and risk the second.

If the commentator's eye scans the entire world, he will see that 1985 was a year in which economic problems occupied the centre of the stage. There were wars, terrorism, anger, catastrophes, and much death. All these gained attention for a few days, maybe a few weeks. But all eventually faded from view. By contrast, economic problems in world, national, and local economies kept attention during the entire year.

It was also a year in which military rule ended in many countries, and started to end in others. This change was most

notable in Latin America. Until a few years ago, most Latin American countries were ruled by generals. Now only two (Chile and Paraguay) remain under military rule. In one major country, Argentina, generals who once ruled that country were sent to prison for crimes of murder and torture.

In other countries, military influence began to wane. China began to demobilise one million soldiers. Popular pressure for democracy grew in South Korea, Thailand, Bangladesh, Pakistan. In the Sudan a general presides but the military does not rule. In Uganda, efforts are now underway to disarm the many uncontrolled armies in that nation.

In the United States, President Reagan's programme for a huge military build-up during 1985 came face to face

with serious opposition from Congress and the public. The reasons are not difficult to discern.

The economic community in the United States fears that the huge budgetary deficit could eventually lead to worldwide economic collapse. The world economy has become so big, so mysterious, and so vital to the everyday lives of much of the human race that the number one worry of political leaders all over the world has become economic.

Suppose one major national economy collapsed. The consequences could be disastrous. It could easily lead to a chain reaction of collapse exactly as happened in the 1930's. And therefore, during 1985, world leaders found themselves more and more occupied with economic problems. The leaders of some smaller countries tried

to ignore their economic challenges as they pursued their usual politics. They believed that eventually the big countries would come up with grants and loans to rescue them. But that became more and more difficult. The big countries were themselves in big economic difficulties.

What might one predict for the world and the Middle East in particular from these trends of 1985? One prediction might be that there will be fewer wars but more terrorism. Wars damage economies. By and large terrorism does not. We have seen a shift from war to terrorism in Lebanon.

A second might be that economic relations between the U.S. and the Soviet Union will develop accompanied by greater economic exchange between all the big countries of the northern tier of the globe. We

could even see giant construction companies like Bechtel become involved in projects within the Soviet Union. Bechtel has been having difficulties because of a decline in big projects in the Gulf states. Of interest is also the fact that both U.S. Secretary of State Shultz and Defense Secretary Weinberger were once Bechtel officials.

Thirdly, it would appear that during 1986 a lot of money is going to be pumped into the world economy by the great powers. Much of it is going into the big economies, and into Latin America. Not much will be going into the Middle East and with lower oil earnings, the countries of the Middle East may face some economic difficulties during the coming year.

Fourthly, there is a chance that the Afghanistan conflict

will begin to be settled, that there could be a kind of armistice in the Iran-Iraq war, and that an effective new political order will finally emerge in Lebanon. All these conflicts have lost much of their original meaning.

Fifthly, the decline in the strategic significance of the Middle East will have implications for the Israeli-Palestinian issue. While the U.S. is more hostile to the PLO than before, its ties to Israel have also begun to weaken. This could finally force the Israeli leadership to seek a serious accommodation with its Palestinian antagonists.

The year 1985 was an important transition period. Transitions open up opportunities, and so the year 1986 may provide opportunities to move the Middle East away, finally, from old conflicts forward to meet new challenges.

'Israel is more of an enemy to the U.S. than an ally'

Following is the full text of a speech delivered Tuesday by James Abourezk, a former U.S. senator and chairman of the Arab-American Anti-Discrimination Committee, at a dinner banquet hosted by Yarmouk University president, Dr. Adnan Badran, in honour of participants in a three-day seminar on 'Israel and U.S.-Israeli Relations' held in Amman Jan. 12-14. The banquet was attended by Minister of Information Mohammad Al Khuthb, seminar participants and senior officials.

I RECALL, a few years ago, a hearing in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee when Sen. Javits of New York was questioning an assistant secretary of State about Israel. Javits asked over and over again the same question: "Would you tell the committee why you believe Israel is a strategic asset to the United States?"

I began to feel sorry for the poor fellow from the State Department, because he was unable to think of an answer. It was obvious he did not want to lie, and he lacked the imagination to dream up something on the spot.

In the years since that hearing, Israel's propagandists have succeeded in convincing successive administrations that it should be labeled a strategic ally — a highly valuable asset for the United States.

Like the prisoners of war held by the North Koreans during the Korean war, American politicians can now be seen to stand up in front of the television cameras and say from memory, the words: "Israel is a strategic ally of the United States."

The reasons behind the statement are usually provided by journalists sympathetic to Israel, and from the Israeli lobby itself. Here are some examples:

- 1) Israel is the only democracy in the Middle East, and is the only reliable bastion of freedom which can stand up against a Soviet attack.
- 2) Israel saves the United States billions of dollars each year because if Israel were not serving as a bastion of freedom, the United States would have to station troops in the Middle East.
- 3) Israel provides valuable intelligence to the United States which it gleaned from Jewish immigrants who come from the Soviet Union.

The burden of carrying the battle in the United States has fallen on the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. You know, we can go along for years and never think we are making any headway, until one day the attacks begin and suddenly you realise that you have been hitting a raw nerve.

Since I do not have an Israeli gun to my back, that is, since I am not running for office in America, permit me to quickly dispose of these arguments.

If anyone realistically thinks that Israel would, even if it could, stand up to the Soviet Union in the unlikely event of a Soviet attack on some unnamed country in the Middle East, they are taking illegal drugs and are hallucinating. The statement is a cruel joke, but unfortunately, it is one played on the people of the United States.

So far as intelligence gathering is concerned, I seriously question the value of anything learned from Jewish immigrants, who, if they had any information of value, would probably not be allowed to leave the Soviet Union in any event.

So far as Israel being a democracy, we should ask the Arabs inside Israel and in the occupied territories for their opinion.

When we have finished with all the lies about Israel's value to the United States, we can take an inventory of what is the real result of the relationship between the two

countries.

First of all, Israel succeeds in maintaining a tension between the United States and most of the Arab World — a world which would prefer to be on friendly terms with America, but which is not allowed to be. When Israel says it is the only reliable ally in the Middle East, its actions make certain that no other country can approach an alliance. By some strange coincidence, each time one or more Arab countries begins to normalise its relations with the United States, the Israelis make a point of using American weapons to attack some part of the Arab World — illegally — with the deliberate intention of driving a wedge. We saw this at the time Begin ordered the raid on Baghdad, when the Syrian helicopters were shot down in the Bekaa, and on and on.

Aside from the deliberate destruction of America's interests in the Middle East, there have been several occasions when Israel had the opportunity to show affirmatively that it is a strategic ally of the United States. But at each opportunity, it has failed, showing instead that it is more of an enemy than an ally.

In 1955 Israelis sought to disrupt relations between the United States and Egypt by sending its agents to Cairo to bomb the U.S. Information Agency, hoping Egypt would be blamed.

In June, 1967, Israel's military destroyed the USS Liberty, killing 34 American sailors, and wounding hundreds more in a deliberate attack. The Johnson administration did its best to cover up this international terrorist crime.

In March, 1979, a young Arab-American, Michael Saba, overheard a member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Staff, Stephen Bryen, offering secret documents to Israeli military officers. Justice Department officials said Bryen probably had been handing over such information to the Israelis for years, but his case was quietly closed, and nothing was ever done about it.

In 1985, when TWA Flight 847 was hijacked, Israel refused to release the Lebanese hostages it was holding, the one demand of the hijackers. Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin stated flatly, "this is America's problem," and America was forced to agonise for weeks over the fate of the Americans on the plane. It was a hijacking that could have ended in minutes had the Israelis done what was necessary.

Several years ago, large amounts of nuclear materials used for making nuclear weapons disappeared from a Pennsylvania warehouse. Investigators flatly stated that Israel stole the materials with the cooperation of the American who was in possession of them.

In May, 1985, Richard Smith was indicted for transferring nuclear switches, called "krytons," to Israel, switches which are illegal to export. Smith jumped bail and was thought by authorities to be in Israel.

Then in the last part of 1985, Jonathan Pollard, a U.S. navy intelligence employee was arrested at the gates of the Israeli embassy trying to escape the country, with his wife and a suitcase full of money. Pollard was accused of selling secrets to Israel, but in an interesting twist of the case, the Reagan administration worked at full speed to cover it up and to close the case down. To get the Pollard case off the front pages, the FBI began arresting other spies who had been under surveillance for years.

had not worked for the U.S. government for four years, and who was clearly arrested to divert attention away from Pollard.

A team of "investigators" was sent to Israel to determine the extent of the spying. Leading the team was the State Department's legal officer, Abraham Sofaer, who was the chief judge at the Sharon trial against Time magazine, and who has bragged about his annual vacations in Israel. It was Sofaer who drafted the initial statement for Reagan when Israel bombed Tunis — you remember, the statement which said the bombing was a legitimate response to an act of terrorism.

The investigating team returned to the United States, totally satisfied with Israel's apology. They said that Israel would return the documents. Of course we know that they have no photocopy machines.

Israel also agreed to disband the scientific offices which controlled Pollard, located in the New York and Washington embassies of Israel. Of course, these high powered investigators did not inquire as to whether the documents might have been photocopied before they were returned. They were also satisfied with the official Israeli explanation that the affair was not authorised by the Israeli cabinet, but that it was a "wildcat" operation pulled off by lower level people in Israeli intelligence.

Unfortunately, because of the U.S. decision to cover up the affair, it will be difficult to trace the other spies being controlled by the same offices who ran Pollard. Surely no one can possibly believe that two control operations were handling only one spy, and that more are not still at large. And it is too much to ask that we believe that the Israeli government didn't know about the operation. There is too much history of theft of government documents, of cases of Israeli espionage hurriedly covered up with the cases closed to believe that it has not been a long time policy of the Israeli government to steal information from the U.S.

That was the good news about Israel's strategic value to the United States.

The bad news is that Israel does not really have to go through the motions of pretending that it has great value to the U.S.

While it probably feels better about having a surface reason for the favouritism shown it by America, there is one other, real reason for all the support and the forgiveness it gets. That reason is money.

The Israelis and their lobby in Washington have found the political erogenous zone of American politicians — and again that's money.

They understand one basic fact — American politicians, by and large, do not care one iota about Arabs or about Jews, but they do care about themselves, and about whether or not they will be re-elected.

Elections cost a great deal of money in the United States, and it is difficult, if not impossible to run for office without money — lots of it.

The Israeli lobby years ago made a smart decision — to concentrate the political contributions of its constituents on one issue — Israel. If a candidate does what the Israeli lobby wants, then the money pours into his or her campaign treasury. If the candidate does not do all that is required, not only is he or she deprived of pro-Israeli money, but it is certain to flow heavily into the opponent's treasury.



By James G. Abourezk

PAC's permit groups of people to get together to put money into a fund. The fund's board of directors then chooses candidates to give money to. PACs are in wide use by American business corporations which can collect money from their executives and then direct contributions toward candidates who will vote their way.

The most striking use of PACs, however, has been by the Israeli lobby, which has brought them into even more single issue focus. In the 1982 congressional elections, more than 30 pro-Israel PACs were identified. They contributed nearly \$2 million to candidates who signed on to the Israeli party line.

In 1984, pro-Israeli PACs nearly doubled their output, giving almost \$4 million to candidates who will either support their line, or remain silent while Israel bombs its choice of targets, or steals secrets from the United States.

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stead of showing its disapproval, Congress appropriated enough extra in 1983 to pay for both the war and the occupation.

Not two weeks after Jonathan Pollard was arrested for selling America's secrets to Israel, Israel routinely submitted its bill for the next fiscal year to the United States, asking for an increase in aid over the year before.

When countries such as Saudi Arabia or Jordan seek to buy weapons from the United States, the Israeli lobby's investment in political candidates once again pays off. Great numbers of congressmen suddenly become interested in arms control — but only if it is directly toward Arab countries.

Politicians who routinely denounce South Africa, and El Salvador, and the Contras in Nicaragua, are strangely silent about Israeli arms sales to them.

Similarly, those who are the

I have said many times before — the battleground is in Washington, and the weapons are words and ideas. If Israel continues to win victories there, it will continue to do everything it wants here in the Middle East. That is why we must do our work better.

ADC is under attack, I believe, for many reasons. We are the only grass roots Arab-American organization in the United States. We are teaching our membership how to operate in the political arena, and we are beginning to be effective at it. We are in the forefront of the struggle to stop stereotyping of people of Arab descent. We have developed contacts with politicians and the press, which, while



These PACs are somewhat disguised, making on strange, non-Israeli sounding names, such as the Committee for 18; Arizona Politically Interested Citizens; the Joint Action Committee for Political Affairs; or the National Bipartisan Political Action Committee. Researchers have been able to identify well over 40 of these PACs which have only one issue as their focus — Israel.

This steady flow of money into campaign treasuries by American contributors buys a lot of favoritism for Israel, and at not a great cost overall. Since Israel literally lives on the United States, depending on it for financial, military and political support, the 4 or 5 million dollars spent by its lobby every two years is an excellent investment. It brings returns of fantastic proportions. In terms of money alone, Congress is willing to give away — with no requirement for payback — billions of taxpayers' dollars every year to Israel. At the current rate Americans are giving well over \$14 million every day before they eat breakfast.

This money flows no matter what Israel does. After the Israeli invasion of Lebanon in 1982, ins-

loudest when it comes to human rights violations in most parts of the world, lose their voices when it comes to Israel's oppressive occupation of Palestine and South Lebanon.

The burden of carrying the battle in the United States has fallen on the American-Arab Anti-Discrimination Committee. You know, we can go along for years and never think we are making any headway, until one day the attacks begin and suddenly you realise that you have been hitting a raw nerve.

We organised ADC five years ago as a service organisation for people of Arab descent. We have been fighting against stereotyping of Arabs, against discrimination, against the imbalance in how the American press covers the Middle East. And we have been taking strong positions on the Middle East issue, raising questions everywhere about Israel's refusal to live within the boundaries of international law.

Suddenly newspaper articles began to appear severely attacking what we are doing. Then in August of last year, someone placed a bomb in front of the Boston ADC headquarters. We were so

we cannot yet compare ourselves to the Israeli lobby, we are beginning to cut into the traditional support they have always enjoyed. They no longer have an exclusive field of operation in the United States.

I believe they see that, which is why the lobby has begun verbally assaulting us. We can handle that. But there is another faction operating, however. It is a group which believes it can succeed in the same way the Irgun and the Stern gang succeeded in the 1940s in Palestine. The FBI says it is the Jewish Defence League. I do not know who it is yet, that is, until someone is tried and convicted for their crimes. Unlike Mr. Reagan, I am not ready to convict someone in the newspapers. I would like to see the evidence before I am willing to go that far.

I have said many times before — the battleground is in Washington, and the weapons are words and ideas. If Israel continues to win victories there, it will continue to do everything it wants here in the Middle East. That is why we must do our work better. That is why we cannot allow ourselves be intimidated into silence. Thank you.

Ancient souks of the Middle East offer romance to shoppers

By Ian MacKenzie
Reporter

ALEPPO, Syria — Tokyo has its Ginza, London its Bond Street and New York its Fifth Avenue. But for the dedicated shopper, the real romance lies in the centuries-old souks of the Middle East.

In Aleppo, reputed to be the oldest inhabited city in the world, donkeys laden with towering packs of goods are used for transport through the alleys of the covered market.

The aroma of spices, coffee, baking bread and sweetmeats mingles with the sounds of the market. The gleam of gold and silver and the clatter of coins are part of the scene. The souk is a place where the past meets the present.

From Aleppo to Cairo, from Istanbul to Baghdad, the souks are a common sight. They are a place where the past meets the present, where the old meets the new.

The souk is a place where the past meets the present, where the old meets the new. It is a place where the past meets the present, where the old meets the new.

One guide estimated the alleys of the covered souk totalled 12 km, in the shadow of the great citadel perched on a hill, where the Biblical Old Testament patriarch Abraham is said to have camped millennia ago.

Elsewhere in the city, the incessant clang of hammer on metal resounds from the famed copper market, the workshops open to the weather on each side of narrow streets oozing winter mud.

On the walls, beautifully-crafted copperware still used in the kitchens of Aleppo gleams waiting for buyers.

In the Jeddide district, around the Armenian Cathedral of St. George, high limestone walls conceal courtyards, usually containing a fountain and a small garden with jasmine and roses.

Purists regard the Aleppo souk as possibly the finest in the Middle East, but other great cities of the region also boast markets which are a delight to visitor and resident alike.

In Damascus, one end of the main El Hamidiyah souk emerges between columns which are part of the old Roman temple of Jupiter at the entrance to the Great Umayyad Mosque.

The site was originally a temple to the Aramaic god Hadad 900 years B.C. In Roman times it became a temple to Jupiter, and on these foundations the Christian basilica of St. John the Baptist was built in the fourth century A.D.

In the eighth century, it was bought from the Christians to be replaced by what was then the world's largest Muslim mosque.

One of Istanbul's major attractions is its labyrinthine bazaar, set up soon after the Muslim conquest in 1453. A survey in 1880 showed it had 4,399 shops, 2,195 workshops, 497 stalls, 12 storehouses and 18 fountains — much the same as today.

In Cairo, the Khan Khalili bazaar was built in 1382 and is regarded today as a living example of the ancient commercial enterprises of the region. Many articles sold are hand-crafted by families whose skills have been handed down over centuries.

Despite the Gulf war and Iraq's modernisation programme, the Shorja market in central Baghdad dating back to the 17th century still flourishes. Like Aleppo, the Baghdad copper market is also famous for its workmanship.

The bazaars of Iran follow the pattern of the Arab World, with vaulted brick or stone roofs covering the narrow streets, and the hub of the cities commerce still goes on there.

Bazaar traders tend to be very traditional in their outlook and played an important role in bringing about Iran's Islamic revolution when the "progress" of the late Shah moved too fast and government corruption got out of hand.

The central Iranian city of Isfahan has the oldest and most traditional of the country's bazaars, built mainly in the 16th and 17th centuries when the Safavid dynasty made the city its capital.

Along the Gulf, the souks are smaller but just as busy. Some date back through the ages as part of millennia-old trade with the Indian sub-continent.

One famous market and one-time haunt for pirates, however, has fallen victim to modern ideology. The old souk in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, with its narrow, cobble streets and hidden alleys, has been shuttered for years, sharing the same fate as other private enterprises deemed exploitative by the state.

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citadel perched on a hill, where the Biblical Old Testament patriarch Abraham is said to have camped millennia ago.

Elsewhere in the city, the incessant clang of hammer on metal resounds from the famed copper market, the workshops open to the weather on each side of narrow streets oozing winter mud.

On the walls, beautifully-crafted copperware still used in the kitchens of Aleppo gleams waiting for buyers.

In the Jeddide district, around the Armenian Cathedral of St. George, high limestone walls conceal courtyards, usually containing a fountain and a small garden with jasmine and roses.

Purists regard the Aleppo souk as possibly the finest in the Middle East, but other great cities of the region also boast markets which are a delight to visitor and resident alike.

In Damascus, one end of the main El Hamidiyah souk emerges between columns which are part of the old Roman temple of Jupiter at the entrance to the Great Umayyad Mosque.

The site was originally a temple to the Aramaic god Hadad 900 years B.C. In Roman times it became a temple to Jupiter, and on these foundations the Christian basilica of St. John the Baptist was built in the fourth century A.D.

In the eighth century, it was bought from the Christians to be replaced by what was then the world's largest Muslim mosque.

One of Istanbul's major attractions is its labyrinthine bazaar, set up soon after the Muslim conquest in 1453. A survey in 1880 showed it had 4,399 shops, 2,195 workshops, 497 stalls, 12 storehouses and 18 fountains — much the same as today.

In Cairo, the Khan Khalili bazaar was built in 1382 and is regarded today as a living example of the ancient commercial enterprises of the region. Many articles sold are hand-crafted by families whose skills have been handed down over centuries.

Despite the Gulf war and Iraq's modernisation programme, the Shorja market in central Baghdad dating back to the 17th century still flourishes. Like Aleppo, the Baghdad copper market is also famous for its workmanship.

The bazaars of Iran follow the pattern of the Arab World, with vaulted brick or stone roofs covering the narrow streets, and the hub of the cities commerce still goes on there.

Bazaar traders tend to be very traditional in their outlook and played an important role in bringing about Iran's Islamic revolution when the "progress" of the late Shah moved too fast and government corruption got out of hand.

The central Iranian city of Isfahan has the oldest and most traditional of the country's bazaars, built mainly in the 16th and 17th centuries when the Safavid dynasty made the city its capital.

Along the Gulf, the souks are smaller but just as busy. Some date back through the ages as part of millennia-old trade with the Indian sub-continent.

One famous market and one-time haunt for pirates, however, has fallen victim to modern ideology. The old souk in the Libyan capital, Tripoli, with its narrow, cobble streets and hidden alleys, has been shuttered for years, sharing the same fate as other private enterprises deemed exploitative by the state.

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A silver smith in the souk of Baghdad (Photo by James Davis)

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Death made possible friend's renewed life

By Catherine Wilson
The Associated Press

PATTERSON, California — Two teen-age friends in a small farm town were near death, one from heart disease and the other from a blood vessel about to burst. One's death gave the other a chance at renewed life.

The story of heart transplant recipient Donna Ashlock, 14, and the donor, high school friend Felipe Garza Jr., 15, is a tribute to their friendship, the wrenching sacrifice of his family, and modern medicine.

Felipe never told his family about his recurring blackouts and headaches.

After he learned three weeks ago that Donna needed a heart transplant because of cardiomyopathy, a degeneration of the heart muscle, Felipe told his mother that "when I die, I want to give my girlfriend my heart," according to his half brother, John Sanchez, 20.

On Jan. 4, he suffered a fatal brain hemorrhage.

Vindful of his wish, his parents agreed to donate his vital organs, and Donna received his heart the next day.

Felipe made his mark by being a good boy at home and a friend who liked to make other people laugh. He liked to visit the Tiger's Den drive-in where Donna worked until her heart ailment was diagnosed last month.

His parents said the two had dated several times last summer.

"When someone needs something, he's there," said a friend, Jose Martinez, after Felipe was buried on Dec. 8. "He's always putting out for people, favours and stuff."

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For many families, Hariri is a heaven-sent benefactor. "God sent Hariri to lighten the pains of war and help our children get a better education than we could afford," said Abdul Rahman Usta, 60, whose sons are Hariri scholars in London and Paris.

Chalak said. "So we direct them to the humanities, theoretical sciences, managerial skills and applied technology."

Chalak's outlook is unashamedly pro-Western. Asked why no students are sent to Eastern bloc countries, he replied: "Because we don't like them. Many Lebanese have studied there and the results are really not very good."

The foundation, with a staff of almost 150 in Beirut, Paris, London and Washington, plans to add a computerised manpower research centre, a career guidance centre, and employment agency and a student magazine to its existing activities.

To be accepted, students must promise to return to Lebanon after graduating, avoid marrying while abroad and eventually repay their loans — though terms have not yet been set.

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Saudi businessman finances generation of Lebanese students

By Alastair Lyon
Reporter

BEIRUT — Smiling nervously, 83 Paris-bound youngsters invade Beirut airport. White paper badges identify them as "being among some 12,000 Lebanese pursuing their higher education at one man's expense."

"It's the first time I have left Lebanon," said engineering student Shams, 17. "I'm a little afraid, but very excited."

Their benefactor is Rafiq Hariri, a Lebanese-born Saudi Arabian businessman in his forties who spent millions of dollars to repair war damage in Lebanon after Israel's 1982 invasion.

His Hariri Foundation finances and organises college studies abroad for a generation of school-leavers who can hope for little help from the war-ravaged state.

Lebanon's high teaching standards have shipped in a decade of civil war. Until peace is restored, Hariri prefers to fund education rather than vulnerable reconstruction projects.

"The goal is simple — to teach everyone willing to learn," says foundation director El Fadi Chalak. "But we do discriminate heavily for poorer candidates."

The two-year-old charity spent \$40 to \$50 million last year and plans to spend \$80 million in 1986 on tuition fees, pocket money, air fares and administrative costs.

Education Minister Selim Hoss acknowledges the "noble work" of the foundation. "We can only praise the efforts of this institution... and wish it continued progress and success," he told Reuters.

Hariri has built a big teaching hospital complex near his home town of Saida in south Lebanon, now paralysed by battles between pro- and anti-Israeli militias, and is setting up private schools in Beirut and other parts of Lebanon.

The Hariri programme has grown fast, from no more than 300 students in June 1984 to 12,000 today. Another 4,000 are expected to join every year.

"The scale is huge. We are an overworked, proud and happy bunch of people," Chalak declared.

He said students often applied for university places abroad lacking proficiency in foreign languages. "So we devised a programme to enable 75 per cent to take intensive language courses before they go on to university."

Diana Seavill, a New Zealander teaching for Hariri at Beirut's American University, said she doubted if all her pupils were university calibre, but added: "They are the best I've ever taught — motivated, polite and charming."

The foundation advises students what courses to choose on the basis of a year-long study it has produced on market needs.

"Parents push their kids to be engineers or doctors, but Lebanon already has 3,000 out-of-work engineers," Chalak said.

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LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Wednesday.

One sterling	1.4380/90	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.4083/88	Canadian dollars
	2.4685/95	West German marks
	2.7805/15	Dutch guilders
	2.0863/73	Swiss francs
	50.39/44	Belgian francs
	7.5700/50	French francs
	1683/1684	Italian lire
	202.55/65	Japanese yen
	7.6320/70	Swedish crowns
	7.6050/6100	Norwegian crowns
	9.0160/0210	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	345.30/345.80	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (AP) — Share prices strengthened on Wednesday in the London stock exchange after the previous day's sharp drop.

More consistent buying was inspired by receding fears of a further hike in the bank base lending rate, and easier sterling financing.

Metals, fabrics, autos, food manufacturers, mining financials, tobacco and shipping were the outstanding gainers. Breweries, packaging and paper, textiles and oils made advances.

Electronics and office equipment fell slightly.

Government bonds were 3/16 higher, except for short-dated bonds which fell 1/8.

The major oils rose one to five pence, except for Ultramar which eased two pence.

The banking sector was mainly lower and thinly traded.

In stores, Phoenix Group PLC, an electronics retailing chain, reported interim pretax profit of £30.1 million, up sharply from £12.5 million.

Luxury car builder Jaguar gained seven pence to 343 after releasing record sales figures for 1985 that were up 13 per cent from 1984, the previous record year.

Israel escapes budget cuts in U.S. foreign aid scheme

WASHINGTON (AP) — The \$1.2 billion in U.S. economic assistance to Israel this year will be untouched by federal budget-balancing laws because it was handed over to the Israelis months ago.

However, the cuts are likely to hit most other countries, and some nations are wondering if reductions in their assistance levels for the 1986 fiscal year ending Sept. 30 will be larger than anticipated. That's because Israel's slice appears to be exempt from the first set of budget cuts.

The Israeli exemption to cuts ordered by the Gramm-Rudman federal budget deficit-reduction law was created by a quirk in a previous law, not by design.

Under the Gramm-Rudman law, the administration expects to "sequester" \$11.7 billion in payments for the 1986 fiscal year. Among the programmes expected to be subject to such withholding is foreign aid, including the \$3.7 billion economic support fund.

State Department and congressional staff members cited the Israeli situation as one of the headaches being caused by application of the budget-balancing rules to foreign aid outlays.

Asked how foreign governments feel about the situation in general, an official said, "anger might be too strong a word to describe it. They just have a lot of questions."

He said the State Department, after consulting with the White House and Congress, is nearing a

decision on how to engineer the cuts without violating the law and without hurting U.S. foreign interests.

For a number of years, Israel, unlike other nations, has received its entire economic support payment within the first 30 days of the fiscal year, which began Oct. 1 so no more economic assistance remains to withhold from that country.

"You can always hope the Israeli ambassador will drive up to the White House with a suitcase full of money, saying 'here's our share,' but the chances of that are pretty slim," an official said.

An Israeli diplomat said, "it is our understanding that the \$1.2 billion will not be affected and I have heard of no discussion of voluntarily giving some of it back."

An official at the American-Israeli Public Affairs Committee, a pro-Israel lobby, suggested that since the Israeli aid is roughly the same as the country's annual payment of interest on its \$10 billion debt to the United States, the money is effectively in U.S. hands anyway.

For foreign aid as a whole, government agencies do not yet know what percentage the government-wide cutbacks will be, but are planning for reductions of about four per cent.

In the confusion over how to apply Gramm-Rudman, it is not yet clear how the percentage reduction would be parceled: Will it be on a country-by-country basis,

or a programme-by-programme basis? Or will it be across such broad budget lines as the entire \$3.7 billion economic support fund?

Under the second scenario, a four per cent reduction would result in a \$148 million cut in foreign economic assistance, with Israel's \$48 million share spread around to the other countries.

If the cuts are made on a country-by-country basis, the Israeli exemption will have no impact on the other countries.

One of the special dilemmas is what to do about Egypt.

Since the 1979 Israeli-Egyptian treaty, Congress has tried to be even-handed in dispensing economic aid to the two countries, but since Egypt has not yet received all its \$815 million in economic assistance for fiscal 1986 it appears to be subject to the cuts.

"One of the possibilities might be to make Egypt exempt too, but that hasn't been decided," an official said.

Other countries for whom Congress has earmarked funds also believe their aid should be sheltered, notably those countries whose assistance is tied to a military base agreement with the United States.

One of these is Portugal, which was to get \$215 million in foreign aid in the current fiscal year.

"We have an agreement with the United States and we anticipate it will be carried out," a Portuguese diplomat said. "We do not expect to be cut."

Kuwait urged to detail plans to save assets in U.S.

KUWAIT (R) — A Kuwaiti parliamentarian has called for details of steps taken to protect Kuwait's hefty U.S. investments after Washington's freeze on Libyan assets.

Deputy Ahmad Al-Rabii, branding the U.S. action "dangerous, international piracy," made the call in questions tabled this week in the national assembly.

Kuwait has built up an estimated \$70 billion in official reserves, mainly invested abroad. Of this, most is in the United States and Western Europe, diplomats said.

They noted Kuwait's investment policy has tended to favour equity holdings over bonds and money market instruments.

Sheikh Rabii called on Finance Minister Jassim Al-Khorafi to also give details of any plans to transfer funds to "safer" havens.

Sheikh Khorafi, expected to reply later this month, earlier this week criticised the U.S. freeze as a blow to the confidence of foreign investors.

Referring to President Carter's freeze on Iranian assets during the 1979 American embassy siege, he said: "We have previously condemned a similar move by the U.S. administration (and) we hoped such action would never occur again."

EC reimposes duty on more Saudi petrochemical import

BRUSSELS (R) — The European Community (EC) has reimposed tariffs on the petrochemical methanol imported from Saudi Arabia, the second petrochemical to have duties reimposed for exceeding its 1986 annual quota, officials said Tuesday.

Last week the EC reimposed duties on imports of linear and high-density polyethylene from Saudi Arabia after imports of the product outstripped its annual duty-free limit threefold.

The EC slightly increased these quotas for petrochemical products late last year in an attempt to pacify Saudi Arabia and its partners in the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) which have complained strongly about EC duties and threatened retaliation.

But the volume of Saudi petrochemicals coming into the EC at present made it almost inevitable that the other duty-free categories of ethylene-glycol, styrene and diethylene-glycol would be breached at some point this year, the officials said.

EC, U.S. and Japan sign nuclear fusion research agreement

MUNICH, West Germany (R) — The European Community (EC), the United States and Japan Wednesday signed an agreement to cooperate on research into harnessing nuclear fusion energy as a potential source of power for commercial energy generation.

The accord, which was negotiated through the Paris-based International Energy Agency (IEA), establishes the first joint project involving research centres developing nuclear fusion.

The research centres involved are the Joint European Torus (JET) nuclear fusion reactor at Culham in Britain and similar installations in Princeton in the United States and Naka-Machi in Japan.

IEA Executive Director Helga Steeg said at the signing ceremony at the Max Planck Institute for Plasma Physics that rising costs made it impossible for any single country to undertake research into nuclear fusion energy alone.

"Before we can produce power from nuclear fusion it will be necessary to develop suitable technology and to prove economic viability," Steeg told senior officials from the three sides.

Poland accuses Western states of 'credit blockade'

WARSAW (R) — Poland Wednesday accused Western governments of breaking agreements by refusing to lend it more money, and said Warsaw would try to get rescheduling for debts it failed to pay at the end of last year.

"In practice a credit blockade is still maintained against Poland in spite of statements made by officials of Western governments," Finance Minister Stanislaw Niekarcz said in a report carried by the official PAP news agency.

He confirmed that Poland failed to pay \$550 million owed by the end of 1985 to the West and said this payment would have to be rescheduled.

Diplomats said the Paris Club, an association grouping 17 Western creditor governments, had agreed to give Poland three months grace to make up the arrears.

They expressed alarm that Poland sought a rescheduling, noting that the money owed had already been rescheduled under an agreement with the Paris Club last July.

Mr. Niekarcz said the issue would be discussed with the association in Paris next week.

The \$550 million included arrears and principal owed from 1981 and interest charges from 1982 to 1984.

In spite of last July's agreement, the West still lacked political will to treat Poland as a partner with equal rights in world financial relations, Mr. Niekarcz said.

Mr. Niekarcz said the Paris Club had agreed to extend \$600 to \$800 million in fresh credits to Poland last year but in fact Warsaw was extended less than \$200 million.

"That is why the payment of \$550 million had to be postponed," he said.

But diplomats said the July agreement, which rescheduled about \$12 billion of debt, did not commit Western governments to lending Poland more money.

Western governments cut off official loans to Poland after the free trade union Solidarity was suppressed under martial law in 1981.

Whereas the United States still refuses to lend more money for political reasons based on Poland's human rights record, Western European governments are reluctant to lend further funds due to Poland's bleak economic scene, diplomats said.

Poland's hard currency debt stands at around \$29.2 billion, the highest in Eastern Europe, official figures show.

Mr. Niekarcz's remarks followed release of economic data for 1985 showing a sharp fall in Poland's hard currency trade surplus to \$1.08 billion from \$1.5 billion in 1984.

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YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Blythe Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, JAN. 16, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: During the daytime it is necessary that you do not try to plunge into a new undertaking until you are better informed of all phases of it and get rid of pending duties you have agreed to.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Do not do anything that could upset a higher-up during the daytime. In the evening, you can have a delightful time with your friends.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Be on the alert for sensible new methods for gaining greater success, but forget that illogical system you have in mind.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Don't permit some annoying responsibility to keep you from being with a good friend for some worthwhile purpose.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't permit a partner to keep you from handling your finest interests during the daytime.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Be open-minded to new opportunities to advance at work and gain benefits. Find a new ally in the evening.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be sure to schedule your time and budget your money so that business and social activities run smoothly.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Be equally fair in dealing with a partner and a home-tie and all goes smoothly for you. Drive with care.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Apply yourself seriously at your duties and don't allow yourself to go off on any tangents.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Practically and creatively are fighting for expression, so combine them nicely and schedule your time wisely.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Wait until later in the day for discussions with family and avoid arguments. Invite guests in for the evening.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't permit a private matter to deter you from getting out in the world and accomplishing a great deal.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Wise budgeting of your time and money can make the future brighter for you. Listen to suggestions of an expert so that you can handle your holdings much better.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he or she can easily comprehend whatever is of a practical nature and also know what methods are good for handling such matters well and make them run more smoothly. Teach to be steadfast at whatever is attempted and then big success is possible in any undertaking.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, JANUARY 17, 1986

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Until shortly after noon, you have excellent opportunities to put in new ideas and plans of action that interest and intrigue you, so be up early and be positive in doing them.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Discuss your ambitions with good friends who can be helpful to you, but don't expect any favors.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Handle outside affairs that are pressing early in the day, but forget that secret anxiety later. Get the future planned wisely.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) New friends have good ideas for recreational pleasures early in the day, but later be most thoughtful of your mate.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) A clever person gives you good ideas on how to solve a dilemma that is troubling you. Don't take on added responsibilities.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Come to a

Shevardnadze cautions Japan against joining U.S. 'Star Wars' plan

TOKYO (Agencies) — Soviet Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze told his Japanese counterpart on Wednesday that Japan should be cautious about U.S. requests for participation in the strategic defence initiative (SDI), a Foreign Ministry official said.

The official, who spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity, quoted Mr. Shevardnadze as saying Japan should "consider its own national interests" when deciding whether to cooperate in SDI, also known as "Star Wars."

Foreign Minister Shintaro Abe, representing Japan in the first Japanese-Soviet foreign ministers meeting in eight years, said Japan will make an independent decision on SDI participation. Japan has expressed "understanding" of the U.S. project, but made no commitment to it.

Mr. Abe also expressed Japan's concern about the Soviet military buildup in the Far East, the official said.

Mr. Shevardnadze is the first Soviet foreign minister to come to Japan since Andrei Gromyko visited in 1976. Biennial foreign ministerial consultations were broken

off two years later after Foreign Minister Suslova met Mr. Gromyko in Moscow.

Soviet interest in Japanese technology for economic development, and a territorial dispute that has long kept bilateral ties cool, are among other topics that may be discussed at this week's consultations.

Mr. Shevardnadze and Mr. Abe met for the first of their three scheduled rounds of talks in a large room facing a quiet Japanese garden of the ornate Iikura Guest House, while scores of vans filled with reporters roamed central Tokyo blaring anti-Soviet slogans and martial music.

The national police agency has mobilised some 6,000 riot police and plainclothesmen to contain about 140 flag- and slogan-draped vans and bar 600 extremists from

the vicinity of the talks, a police official said on condition he not be identified.

Police tripled security around the Soviet embassy after rioting groups, pledging to disrupt Mr. Shevardnadze's visit, broadcast noisy protest from vans fitted with loudspeakers.

The Soviet minister told Japanese reporters before leaving Moscow that he was carrying a letter from Kremlin leader Mikhail Gorbachev to Japanese Prime Minister Yasuhiro Nakasone.

Mr. Shevardnadze, making his second major solo trip abroad, will meet Mr. Nakasone on Saturday.

Japanese leaders have said they will press for the return of four northern Kurile islands which have been occupied by the Soviet Union since the end of World War II. Moscow, which has said it will make no concessions on the issue, has stationed troops on three of them since the late 1970s.

Mr. Shevardnadze said in an arrival statement: "I hope my visit will move our relations a step forward towards those of good neighbours."

Superpower negotiators ready to speed up talks

GENEVA (R) — The chief arms negotiators of the United States and the Soviet Union have renewed pledges to speed up their work as they arrived to start the first nuclear weapons talks here since the November superpower summit.

U.S. envoy Max Kampelman flew into Geneva from London Tuesday night, declaring Washington was "determined to accelerate its search for drastic reductions in nuclear arms."

"We will do so in the spirit of the November meeting in this city between President Reagan and General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev," he said in a prepared statement.

But Mr. Kampelman said the next move was up to the Soviets after U.S. proposals submitted during the last round of talks shortly before the Geneva summit.

Mr. Reagan and Mr. Gorbachev agreed to accelerate the negotiations.

"We hope there will be a constructive Soviet response to our offer," Mr. Kampelman said, describing it as balanced, reasonable and a good basis for progress. "We look forward to an active and positive round of negotiations," he added.

Soviet negotiator Viktor Karpov said on arrival earlier that he had instructions to work for early progress and expand areas of common ground. The first meeting is due on Thursday.

The talks, now in their fourth round, have been deadlocked since opening last March over Mr. Reagan's controversial strategic defence initiative (SDI), a multi-billion-dollar research project for a space missile defence shield.

Pakistan said to have shot down Afghan jet

ISLAMABAD (R) — Pakistani anti-aircraft gunners shot down an Afghan MIG-21 jet when it crossed into Pakistan's air space with three other planes on Tuesday, officials in the Pakistani frontier city of Peshawar said Wednesday.

But a military spokesman in Islamabad denied that Pakistani gunners had shot down any Afghan plane.

The officials, who asked not to be named, said the jet crashed on the Afghan side of the mountainous border after being hit near Kharachi, 150 kilometres west of Peshawar.

Their account was backed up by Afghan exiles quoting reports from Peshawar, the nearest town to the border crash site.

Pakistan has repeatedly warned Afghanistan that it would shoot down intruding aircraft. It has occasionally fired at them but has never reported shooting one down.

Afghan and Soviet jets frequently stray across the mountainous border and sometimes drop bombs. Such air violations usually occur when Soviet and Afghan forces are battling rebels close to the frontier.

Sri Lankan officer killed in attack

COLOMBO (Agencies) — A Sri Lankan naval officer was killed on Wednesday when Tamil guerrillas attacked a motorised patrol in Trincomalee, the Defence Ministry said.

A spokesman said the officer died when rebels hurled grenades at his vehicle.

Navy personnel from the Trincomalee base are used for infantry work in the area. Anti-guerrilla operations are conducted by the three armed services and police under a joint command.

It was the second attack by the guerrillas, who are fighting for a separate Tamil state, since they called off a ceasefire on Sunday.

A soldier was killed and two wounded on Tuesday when rebels pounded a major military base in northern Jaffna with mortars, automatic weapons and grenades, the Defence Ministry said.

Meanwhile, an estimated 300,000 tea workers of Tamil origin began a prayer campaign in plantations in central Sri Lanka on Tuesday in an effort to win citizenship rights for 400,000 stateless people.

The Ceylon Workers Congress, whose president, Savumunoori Thondaman, is a member of President Junius Jayewardene's cabinet, is leading the campaign.

The stateless people are descendants of south Indian labourers brought to Sri Lanka by the British to work on the tea and rubber plantations prior to independence in 1948. Some have been granted Sri Lankan citizenship while others were repatriated to India under agreements between the two countries.

Gunmen shoot Marcos' pilot

MANILA (R) — Gunmen shot and wounded a pilot assigned to a special unit that flies aircraft carrying President Ferdinand Marcos and other members of the Philippine government, an air force spokesman said Wednesday.

Lieutenant-Colonel Enrique Gonzales, 37, was gunned down by two men near his house in southern Manila on Monday. Police said the attackers stole his watch, a ring and a brown envelope.

A Manila newspaper said the envelope contained the flight schedule for Imelda Marcos, the president's wife, during the campaign for the Feb. 7 presidential election.

Official could not confirm the contents of the envelope but the

Donna Reed dies

BEVERLY HILLS, California (AP) — Donna Reed, who starred as a model wife on her own television series but won an academy award portraying a prostitute, died on Tuesday of pancreatic cancer. She was 64.

Miss Reed won a supporting actress Oscar in 1953 for her role as a prostitute in "From Here to Eternity," a tale of U.S. army life in Hawaii on the eve of Pearl Harbor.

She probably is best remembered as Mrs. Stone, the wife of a pediatrician and mother of two on "The Donna Reed Show." The show ran for eight seasons beginning in 1958.

During the 1984-85 season, the hazel-eyed Miss Reed appeared as "Miss Ellie" on the prime-time soap opera hit "Dallas," but that role ended with a lawsuit when she was cut to make room for the return of Barbara Bel Geddes in the role.

She was hospitalised several months ago for ulcers. While being treated at Cedars-Sinai Medical Centre for bleeding ulcers in December, the malignancy in her pancreas was discovered.

Miss Reed's other film appearances included Frank Capra's classic, "It's a Wonderful Life"; "The Picture of Dorian Gray"; "Green Dolphin Street"; "The Last Time I Saw Paris"; and "The Benny Goodman Story."

She agreed to take over the role of Miss Ellie on "Dallas" when Miss Bel Geddes, who had run the ranch for six seasons, told producers she could not continue because of ill health. Miss Bel Geddes suffered a heart attack in 1983 and underwent quadruple bypass surgery.

COLUMNS 7 & 8

U.N. to close on Sundays

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations will close its headquarters on Sundays until March 16 in what was termed an austerity measure by a spokesman. The organisation is experiencing cash problems, in part because of tardy payments of assessed contributions to the budget. It faces more acute difficulties if the United States implements a threat to reduce its contribution from 25 per cent to 20 per cent of the organisation's budget, beginning next October. The U.N. spokesman, Francois Gualiani, said that Sunday was the slowest day of the week for guided tours at the 12-acre headquarters in central New York City, so it was decided to save money by barring visitors for the next eight Sundays.

Gandhi hates seeing himself

MADRAS (AP) — Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi, who says democratic India is not ready for free, private television, insists that he hates seeing himself almost every night on the state-run screen, against his wishes. "From my point of view, it is counterproductive and I have told them very categorically that they should not project me," said the photogenic, 41-year-old prime minister, who appears almost nightly on government TV — the only kind in India. "I wrote to them about this, but they were so useless," he said, laughing out at state TV. He made the statement in an interview to be published in the Tamil language fortnightly newspaper Tuglak in Madras.

Actress Jane Wyman leaves hospital

LOS ANGELES (R) — Jane Wyman, former wife of President Ronald Reagan and a star of the television series "Falcon Crest," has left hospital after successfully undergoing an intestinal operation, a hospital spokeswoman said Tuesday. Friends said Ms. Wyman, 72, will have to rest for several weeks before returning to her television role as the manipulative matriarch of a wine-growing family in California. She spent 13 days in St. John's hospital in Los Angeles recovering from the operation, for the removal of scar tissue. Ms. Wyman, who appeared in more than 70 films and won a Hollywood Oscar for her role of a deaf mute in "Johnny Belinda," married Reagan in 1940 and they were divorced eight years later.

Man bites mother-in-law in self-defence

BAHRAIN (R) — A Bahrain court has declared a man who bit his mother-in-law in a row over moving house not guilty of assault, local newspapers reported Wednesday. It accepted his plea that he bit her in self-defence when she tried to prevent him moving his furniture out of her house because she did not want her daughter to leave.

Heroin-stuffed condoms found in man's stomach

BANGKOK (R) — Two West German tourists have been arrested on drug smuggling charges after X-rays showed one of them had swallowed condoms stuffed with heroin, police said Wednesday. Police acting on a tip stopped Raymond Rudolf Cierpka, 38, and Helmut Link, 29, as they were about to board a flight to Moscow on Tuesday on their way home. Failing to discover any drugs in body searches, police had the two suspects X-rayed and found 250 grammes of heroin stuffed in condoms in Link's stomach. Two foreigners used a similar trick last year in an attempt to smuggle heroin out of Thailand but both died from poisoning when the condoms burst in their stomachs.

Snags hit Columbia, forces early landing

HOUSTON, Texas (R) — Two more experiments have been scrubbed aboard the orbiting U.S. space shuttle and its mission has been cut short by one day, the U.S. space agency announced late Tuesday.

The shuttle Columbia is now scheduled to land at Cape Canaveral, Florida, on Thursday.

The new schedule will offer an additional opportunity for the shuttle to land in Florida, since weather conditions there are expected to be more favourable on Thursday than Friday, said a spokesman at Johnson Space Centre.

Earlier, flight director Jay Greene told a press briefing the decision on whether to shorten the mission would be based on an analysis of payload requirements and the need for adequate turnaround time for the Columbia before its next flight, set to begin on March 6.

The current mission, planned to last five days, was launched last Sunday after repeated delays from the original target date of December 18.

The space agency said two major materials-processing experiments aboard the shuttle were not functioning because of problems with equipment.

Also, a spokesman said the seven-man crew had given up on trying to use a faulty image intensifier to photograph Halley's Comet.

Without the equipment, the comet is difficult to locate 200 million kilometres from earth, and mission specialist George Nelson has had to extend exposure time with a hand-held camera to photograph the comet.

However, the crew was able to use an infrared camera to take pictures of South America as part of a study of heat patterns on earth.

Organised crime is entrenched in U.S., panel tells Reagan

WASHINGTON (AP) — A select commission told President Ronald Reagan on Tuesday that organised crime is entrenched in the United States marketplace and is "increasingly using labour unions as a tool to obtain monopoly power" in key sectors.

The President's Commission on Organised Crime, winding up the first comprehensive investigation of labour and management racketeering in three decades, said consumers "unknowingly pay a surcharge to organised crime for a wide range of goods and services," and that U.S. government enforcement efforts are fragmented and inadequate to stem the tide.

Just two days earlier, Mr. Reagan, in an article for the New York Times magazine, wrote that "for the first time in our history, we finally have the mob (organised crime) on the run" and boasted that organised crime convictions had quadrupled since he took office in 1981.

But Irving R. Kaufman, chairman of the commission, who presented the panel's report to Mr. Reagan at the White House, said, "There has never been a coherent federal strategy to attack organised crime's corruption of our business institutions and lab-

our organisations." In a summary released to reporters, the commission criticised prosecutors who merely "count bodies" — convictions — as a measure of success, and said, "instead, a new strategy must be developed to bankrupt individual mobsters and to discourage union officers, employers, and public officials from accommodating organised crime."

The commission said that through domination of certain labour unions in major U.S. cities, organised crime controls and regulates a number of markets in the construction, wholesale and retail meat processing, trucking, garbage carting, and waterfront industries.

It cited four unions "with histories of control or influence by organised crime": The International Brotherhood of Teamsters; the International Longshoremen's Association; the Hotel Employees and Restaurant Employees International Union; and the Labourers International Union of North America.

The summary did not go into detail about the alleged racketeering activities of any particular group.

New Guatemala president takes office, urges unity

GUATEMALA CITY (R) — Christian Democrat Vinicio Cerzo took office as president of Guatemala on Tuesday with a strong appeal for unity in a country he said was drained by "senseless and cruel violence."

Mr. Cerzo, a 43-year-old lawyer and political moderate, won two-thirds of the vote last month in run-off elections for a civilian president held after more than three decades of almost unbroken military rule.

"No leader of this nation has ever taken over a country in worse

condition," Mr. Cerzo told Guatemala's new 100-member parliament in his inauguration speech. "We are in a terrible crisis."

Under a long string of military governments, Guatemala has won a reputation as one of the world's worst human rights violators, with up to 100,000 civilians estimated to have been killed in army campaigns against left-wing guerrillas who have been active here for more than 20 years.

Mr. Cerzo pledged "profound respect for the human rights of all".

Greenpeace steers to safety from thick Antarctic ice pack

SYDNEY (R) — The flagship of the environmental group Greenpeace on Wednesday steamed north to safety away from thick pack ice blocking its path to the Antarctic.

The converted tug turned back for the open sea as a senior New Zealand Antarctic official repeated his warning that it could face disaster if it tried to get into McMurdo sound. The crew will now wait for the ice to break up.

"I don't see any purpose in Greenpeace coming down here," Antarctic official Bob Thomson said in a warning radioed from Scott base. He said there was about 100 kilometres of pack ice leading out to sea from the sound. The Greenpeace, which left there in mid-December to set up a non-government base and promote its campaign for an Antarctic world park, decided Tuesday night to turn back after coming up against a thick ice barrier.

Expedition director Peter Wilkinson told Reuters from the ship: "We decided that the safest place for the vessel is right to the north beyond outer ice pack limits because the ice is breaking off."

Greenpeace has been urged by both Australian and New Zealand authorities to abort its mission following last Saturday's sinking of

the British expedition ship. Southern Quest.

The ship was crushed by ice on its way to pick up a team of explorers who successfully retraced Captain Robert Falcon Scott's doomed South Pole expedition of 1911/12. All crew and passengers were rescued by U.S. helicopters.

One of the three Britons who walked and skied to the South Pole will stay in the Antarctic for a second winter with two other men, the "Footsteps of Scott" expedition said Wednesday.

Robert Swan, 28, the leader of the private expedition, told reporters that Gareth Wood, 33, had returned to Cape Evans with two others he did not name.

A United States ski-equipped Hercules TC130 flew the rest of the expedition from the Antarctic to New Zealand.

Wood has been on the frozen continent since early last February preparing through the isolation and constant darkness of an Antarctic winter for the trek to the pole in which the three hauled their sledge loads without backup or radio contact in a duplication of Captain Scott's expedition.

The trio would spend another year in the Antarctic while the expedition arranged for another support ship to pick-up its stores

THE WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Etkens

HERALD
By Robert A. Anderson

ACROSS
1. NFL award
2. 1985
3. Rhythmic
4. Quantity
5. In descent
6. Music of poetry
7. Emulation
8. Condo
9. Awa, —, anal
10. Of two words
11. A Lancaster
12. A department
13. In short
14. Track event
15. "Diplomat"
16. Ketchikan
17. "Le Bon"
18. Malay Archipelago
19. "Star-crossed" lower
20. Viscous
21. Soup spoon
22. Lattice
23. Variety
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51. "Star-crossed" lower

DOWN
1. Capable
2. Sudden
3. Reaction
4. New-day eggs
5. Early Briton
6. Gable
7. Exotic flora
8. Pacific island
9. Calumet house
10. Whiff
11. "Tom"
12. "Tom"
13. W. Rogers
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100. W. Rogers

Diagramless 18 X 18, by Sunny Francis

ACROSS
1. Spacious gray
2. Remote
3. Agrad
4. Spacious fabric
5. Desire envy
6. Walter's team
7. Whiff holder
8. Tapering
9. Pursue
10. Headline
11. Part of birth announcement
12. Strip of wood
13. Hat call word
14. Obedient
15. Delect
16. Bant
17. Group of peds
18. Bant
19. Group of peds
20. Bant
21. Selected
22. Holland flower
23. Building
24. Material
25. Elaborate
26. Sum
27. Largest lake in S.A.
28. Rockless
29. Adverse
30. Don't give
31. Epistle
32. Standard
33. Curled
34. Laid burner
35. Hammer part
36. Trousers
37. Day of movies
38. Bant or Bow
39. Flower part
40. Card game for two
41. Furnish
42. Bant
43. On land
44. Bant
45. Elevator man
46. Purse
47. De grammar
48. Bant or Bow
49. Flower part
50. Card game for two
51. Furnish
52. Bant
53. On land
54. Bant
55. Elevator man
56. Purse
57. De grammar
58. Bant or Bow
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83. On land
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92. Bant
93. On land
94. Bant
95. Elevator man
96. Purse
97. De grammar
98. Bant or Bow
99. Flower part
100. Card game for two

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4. Spacious fabric
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6. Walter's team
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12. Strip of wood
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19. Group of peds
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GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SEARIF
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A CASE FOR THE COUNT

East-West vulnerable. East deals.

NORTH
♦ K 8 3 2
♥ A 10 5 4
♦ A J 8 4
♠ 5

WEST
♦ Q J 7 4
♥ 10 9 3
♦ 7 2
♠ J 8 4

EAST
♦ 10 9 6
♥ Q
♦ Q 9 5
♠ A K Q 10 7 3

SOUTH
♦ A 5
♥ K 8 7 2
♦ K 10 6 3
♠ 9 6 2

The bidding: East 1♣, West 1♦, East 2♦, West 2♥, East 3♦, West 3♥, East 4♦, West 4♥, East 5♦, West 5♥, East 6♦, West 6♥, East 7♦, West 7♥, East 8♦, West 8♥, East 9♦, West 9♥, East 10♦, West 10♥, East 11♦, West 11♥, East 12♦, West 12♥, East 13♦, West 13♥, East 14♦, West 14♥, East 15♦, West 15♥, East 16♦, West 16♥, East 17♦, West 17♥, East 18♦, West 18♥, East 19♦, West 19♥, East 20♦, West 20♥, East 21♦, West 21♥, East 22♦, West 22♥, East 23♦, West 23♥, East 24♦, West 24♥, East 25♦, West 25♥, East 26♦, West 26♥, East 27♦, West 27♥, East 28♦, West 28♥, East 29♦, West 29♥, East 30♦, West 30♥, East 31♦, West 31♥, East 32♦, West 32♥, East 33♦, West 33♥, East 34♦, West 34♥, East 35♦, West 35♥, East 36♦, West 36♥, East 37♦, West 37♥, East 38♦, West 38♥, East 39♦, West 39♥, East 40♦, West 40♥, East 41♦, West 41♥, East 42♦, West 42♥, East 43♦, West 43♥, East 44♦, West 44♥, East 45♦, West 45♥, East 46♦, West 46♥, East 47♦, West 47♥, East 48♦, West 48♥, East 49♦, West 49♥, East 50♦, West 50♥, East 51♦, West 51♥, East 52♦, West 52♥, East 53♦, West 53♥, East 54♦, West 54♥, East 55♦, West 55♥, East 56♦, West 56♥, East 57♦, West 57♥, East 58♦, West 58♥, East 59♦, West 59♥, East 60♦, West 60♥, East 61♦, West 61♥, East 62♦, West 62♥, East 63♦, West 63♥, East 64♦, West 64♥, East 65♦, West 65♥, East 66♦, West 66♥, East 67♦, West 67♥, East 68♦, West 68♥, East 69♦, West 69♥, East 70♦, West 70♥, East 71♦, West 71♥, East 72♦, West 72♥, East 73♦, West 73♥, East 74♦, West 74♥, East 75♦, West 75♥, East 76♦, West 76♥, East 77♦, West 77♥, East 78♦, West 78♥, East 79♦, West 79♥, East 80♦, West 80♥, East 81♦, West 81♥, East 82♦, West 82♥, East 83♦, West 83♥, East 84♦, West 84♥, East 85♦, West 85♥, East 86♦, West 86♥, East 87♦, West 87♥, East 88♦, West 88♥, East 89♦, West 89♥, East 90♦, West 90♥, East 91♦, West 91♥, East 92♦, West 92♥, East 93♦, West 93♥, East 94♦, West 94♥, East 95♦, West 95♥, East 96♦, West 96♥, East 97♦, West 97♥, East 98♦, West 98♥, East 99♦, West 99♥, East 100♦, West 100♥.

Opening lead: Four of ♠.

If we turn on the subject of counting, it is because so many hands involve no more than the ability to count to 13. We were surprised at how many declarers failed to bring home their heart contract on this hand.

We are ambivalent about East's decision to open three clubs in first seat with near opening bid values. That got passed round to North, who had the perfect hand for a balancing double. South's jump to four hearts closed the auction.